

JOURNAL
OF THE
Fifteenth Quadrennial Session

OF THE
GENERAL CONFERENCE

OF THE
Methodist Protestant Church

HELD IN
ADRIAN, MICH., MAY 18-28, 1888.

PUBLISHED BY THE
Board of Publication of the Methodist Protestant Church.

WM. McCracken, Jr., AGENT,
PITTSBURGH.

WM. J. C. DULANY, AGENT,
BALTIMORE.

The Methodist Protestant

E. J. DRINKHOUSE, M. D., D. D., EDITOR.

ESTABLISHED JANUARY 7, 1831.

(OFFICIAL)

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JOURNAL.

FIRST DAY.

Friday, May 18, 1888.

The General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church convened in fifteenth quadrennial session in Plymouth M. P. Church, Adrian, Michigan, Friday, May 18, 1888.

The Conference was called to order at 10 o'clock A. M., by W. S. Hammond, President of the Conference, who also conducted the religious services.

The roll was called by the Secretary, S. K. Spahr.

The President then announced the following Committee on Certificates:

G. B. McElroy, T. B. Graham, W. M. Strayer, Benjamin Stout, J. M. Hadley, Ira C. Post and J. F. Burdine.

On motion the rules of order governing the session of 1884 were adopted for this session until further action. A. L. Reynolds, pastor of Plymouth Church, made a statement to the Conference in reference to the entertainment of members and to the delivery of Conference mail.

On motion it was ordered that the morning session begin at 8.30 and close at 12; meet again at 2 P. M. and adjourn at the pleasure of the Conference. This was afterwards reconsidered and amended by making 9 A. M. the opening hour, a recess from 12 until 2 P. M., and closing at pleasure.

The bar of the house was placed at the row of seats parallel with the third window.

On motion, the consideration of the rules governing the last session was made the order of the day for 2.30 P. M.

A communication from Mrs. Jane M. Geddes, offering the parlors of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union for the use of the Conference committees was read, and the offer accepted, the Conference

OFFICERS.

DAVID JONES, PRESIDENT,

PITTSBURGH, PA.

U. S. FLEMING, SECRETARY,

GRAFTON, W. VA.

L. D. STULTZ, ASSISTANT SECRETARY,

GLASSBORO, NEW JERSEY.

J. R. HATCH, ENGROSSING SECRETARY,

SPRING LAKE, NEW YORK.

Methodist Protestant Church.

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GEORGIA.	
MINISTERS.	LAYMEN.
J. G. Coldwell,	J. M. Adamson.
GENESEE.	
F. N. Foster,	Geo. W. Doty.
INDIANA.	
H. Stackhouse,	W. W. McCaslin,
J. H. C. McKinney,	J. M. Eades,
G. W. Boxell,*	W. A. Quick,*
F. M. Hussey,	N. Hill.
IOWA.	
S. J. Geddes,	J. F. Burdine,
W. M. Van Vleet,	J. W. Murphy.*
KANSAS.	
J. H. Luse,	D. Vangundy.*
KENTUCKY.	
H. S. Swetnam,	Dawson Dillon.*
LOUISIANA.	
J. M. P. Hickerson,	J. W. Calcote.*
MARYLAND.	
L. W. Bates,	W. J. C. Dulany,
F. T. Tagg,	C. W. Button,
W. S. Hammond,	J. R. Caton,
W. M. Strayer,	J. W. Hering,
J. D. Kinzer,	J. D. Baker,
E. J. Drinkhouse,	Samuel Vannort,
T. H. Lewis,	W. J. Aydelotte,
J. T. Murray,	J. B. Thomas,
D. L. Greenfield,	Horace Burrough.
MICHIGAN.	
G. B. McElroy,	W. J. Spear.*
MINNESOTA.	
W. H. McChesney,	Wm. Stauffer.*
MISSOURI.	
W. A. Fogle,	J. W. Miller.*
MISSISSIPPI.	
J. L. Scarborough,	J. W. McInnis.*

returning a vote of thanks to the ladies of the Union for their kindness.

On motion the selection of Conference postmaster was left to the Committee on Entertainment. The following persons were introduced to the Conference: C. H. Morgan and W. K. Spencer, pastors of the Methodist Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches, respectively, in Adrian, Michigan.

The following order of business was adopted:

1. Calling Roll.
2. Reading minutes of preceding session.
3. Receiving reports.
4. Receiving memorials.
5. Taking up reports.
6. Incidental business.

Three o'clock P. M. was made the hour for the election of the permanent officers of this Conference.

The report of the Committee on (certificates) Credentials was read and adopted. The following list contains the names of those elected to this General Conference; those marked with a star (*) were absent, and those with a daggar (†) were alternates:

CONFERENCE ROLL.

MINISTERS.	ALABAMA.	LAYMEN.
H. H. McNeill,*		D. O. Stanfill,
J. T. Howell,*		C. E. Crenshaw.
	ARKANSAS.	
M. C. Jackson,		J. F. Jordan.
	BALTIMORE (COLORED).	
	Rev. W. H. Lee, Messenger.*	
	CENTRAL TEXAS.	
J. E. Bounds,		L. Hinds,*
		N. G. Ferguson.†
	COLORADO (TEXAS).	
Thomas Aaron,*		Judge Morris.*
	DEEP RIVER.	
Solomon Long,*		E. L. McHargue.*
	FORT SMITH.	
James Whitaker,*		W. C. H. Walker.*

Methodist Protestant Church.

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ONONDAGA.

MINISTERS.

J. R. Hatch,

LAYMEN.

F. C. Griffin.

OREGON.

(No report.)

PENNSYLVANIA.

J. R. Botts,

G. P. Miller.

PITTSBURGH.

D. Jones,
A. W. Robertson,
Mark B. Taylor,
J. C. Berrien,

W. K. Gillespie,
Jos. Bently,
James P. Sayre,
Henry J. Heinz.

RED RIVER.

(No report.)

SOUTH CAROLINA.

C. McSmith,

Daniel Yarbrough.*

TENNESSEE.

B. F. Duggan,

G. B. Moon.

SOUTH ILLINOIS.

G. C. Smith,

F. M. Link.

TEXAS.

G. W. Johnson,*

Joseph Morris.*

VIRGINIA.

Geo. R. Barr,*
F. T. Matthews,*

H. F. Woodhouse,*
J. F. Richmond.*

WEST ARKANSAS.

Thos. J. Loudermilk.

Dr. C. M. Norwood.*

WEST TENNESSEE.

A. W. Floyd,†
S. O. Hooper,*

R. W. Talley.*

WEST MICHIGAN.

Wm. D. Tomkinson,

S. J. Badcock,†
J. W. Burlington.*

Fifteenth Quadrennial Session.

MUSKINGUM.

MINISTERS.

M. L. Jennings,
S. A. Fisher,
Wm. Hastings,
G. W. Hissey,
J. S. Thrap,
W. L. Wells,

LAYMEN.

Warner Mills.
C. J. Yingling,
J. M. McHenry,
Boyd McCormick,
H. H. Woodard,
L. Hawk.

NEBRASKA.

C. S. Bradley,

J. W. Strickler.*

NEW JERSEY.*

L. D. Stultz,

Z. Patterson.

NEW YORK.

L. E. Davis,

Arthur D. Matthews.

NORTH ARKANSAS.

H. B. Cox,

G. B. Holifield.*

NORTH CAROLINA.

T. J. Ogburn,
J. R. Ball,
J. L. Michaux,*
R. H. Wills,
D. A. Highfill,*
S. W. Coe,
F. M. Totten,

J. F. Harris,
W. C. Whitaker,
W. J. Ellis,*
J. C. Roberts,
M. H. Holt,
J. M. Hadley,
O. R. Cox.*

NORTH ILLINOIS.

Thomas Kelley,

W. S. Wilson.

NORTH MISSOURI.

G. Williams,*

N. Davis.

NORTH MISSISSIPPI.

Wm. Shepherd,*

A. T. Harris.*

OHIO.

T. B. Graham,†
C. S. Evans,*
D. S. Stephens,
S. K. Spahr,

A. Alexander,
W. L. Bailey,
A. T. Corbit.

cases the member making the call shall state the ground on which he makes it, and the member supposed to be out of order shall have an opportunity to explain. All questions of order shall be decided by the President, agreeably to the rules of the Conference; *provided*, however, that any member may, by obtaining a second, appeal to the Conference from the decision of the chair; but the question thereon shall be taken without debate, after the President has stated his reason for the decision.

6. No member shall speak more than once on the same question, nor longer than twenty minutes, without special leave from the Conference, and he shall confine himself strictly to the subject under discussion; *provided*, however, that the chairman of a committee and the member presenting an original paper shall be entitled to make a second speech.

7. All motions or resolutions shall, at the request of any member, be divided, when the sense will admit of it.

8. If two or more members rise to speak at the same time, it shall be determined by the President which of them is entitled to the floor.

9. The appointment of all committees shall be by the President, unless otherwise ordered by the Conference.

10. The number of which any committee shall be composed shall be determined by the Conference, the question being taken on the highest number first, and so on until the Conference shall determine the number.

11. Upon a call for the previous question, if made by five members, and sustained by the Conference, the question shall be put without debate.

12. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be entertained but to adjourn, to lay on the table, to commit, amend, or postpone, which several motions have precedence in the order they stand arranged, and the first two shall be taken without debate, and a motion to adjourn shall always be in order.

13. Every member within the bar shall vote on all questions submitted to the action of the Conference, unless excused for sufficient reason.

14. No personalities shall be allowed in debate, nor improper reflections upon any religious denomination.

15. All reports of committees, when read by their respective chairmen, shall be regarded as the property of the Conference, and subject to its action.

16. Any motion to reconsider shall be made by some member who voted with the majority, and shall require a majority of the members present to sustain it; nor shall a motion to reconsider be entertained if made later than the second day after the original action is had, except by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

17. Any member shall have the right to call for the reading of any subject under consideration. No member shall be allowed to explain remarks made in a previous speech, except in regular debate, unless a member requests it, but any member so called upon to explain shall have the right to decline any explanation.

18. The President shall administer the rules rigidly and impartially. He shall promptly suppress all unseemly demonstrations, such as stamping, clapping of hands and conversation, or other behavior which obstructs the business of the Conference.

Fifteenth Quadrennial Session.

WEST VIRGINIA.

MINISTERS.

B. Stout,
 A. L. McKeever,
 M. L. Barnett,
 J. F. Cowan,
 J. J. Mason,
 D. G. Helmick,
 D. H. Davis,*
 O. Lowther,†
 E. J. Wilson,†

LAYMEN.

J. W. Hull,
 R. H. Freer,*
 John Linn,
 J. N. Pierpoint,
 I. C. Post,
 J. H. Henry,*
 U. S. Fleming,
 Wm. Mearns,†
 L. D. Swisher.†

ALABAMA (COLORED).

(No report.)

COLORADO (COLORED).

(No report.)

GEORGIA (COLORED).

(No report.)

SPRING RIVER (COLORED).

(No report.)

The vote fixing 2.30 o'clock P. M. as the hour for the consideration of the Rules of Order was reconsidered, and on motion the Conference proceeded at once to their consideration.

The Rules, adopted, are as follows:

1. The Conference shall be opened at the appointed hour with religious services, under the direction of the President, or in his absence, under that of the Secretary.
2. After the religious exercises of each session, the roll shall be called by the Secretary, and the minutes of the previous session read and approved.
3. When a member desires to present any business, or to speak to any question, he shall arise and address the chair as "Mr. President," and then pause until he is recognized by the chair as follows: "The representative from _____." The President in putting a question shall do it standing.
4. Any motion made and seconded, except a motion to adjourn, to lay on the table, a call for the previous question, for the yeas and nays, and for a division of the house shall be handed to the chair, when required by the Secretary, signed by the mover and second, and be read by the Secretary before any debate is had thereon.
5. No interruption shall be suffered while a member is on the floor, but by a call to order by the chair or some other member of the Conference. In such

Boundaries.....	7
Revision	5
Fraternal Relation.....	3
Ecumenical Conference.....	5
Judiciary	7
Sunday-schools	5
Statistics.....	5
Publishing Houses.....	10
Education.....	10
Ministerial Education.....	10
Missions	10
Journals	10
Ritual	5
Course of Study.....	7

The Committee on Pulpit Supply made a partial report, which was before the house when the hour for the order of the day arrived.

M. L. Jennings, Horace Burrough and Benjamin Stout were appointed tellers, and the Conference proceeded to the election of its officers. David Jones, of Pittsburgh Conference, was elected President, and U. S. Fleming, of West Virginia Conference, Secretary.

On motion the Secretary was authorized to appoint his own assistants.

Adjourned with the benediction.

An evening service was held, at which addresses of welcome were made by pastors A. L. Reynolds, W. K. Spencer, C. H. Morgan and J. S. Holmes in behalf of the Methodist Protestant, Presbyterian, Methodist Episcopal and Baptist churches, respectively, and by Hon. W. S. Wilcox, in behalf of the city of Adrian.

The response was made by W. S. Hammond, of Baltimore, on the part of the Conference.

The anthems sung were excellently rendered by the Plymouth Methodist Protestant choir, consisting of Mrs. Howard, Miss Osborn, Prof. W. H. Howard and Mr. G. R. Swift. The services of the evening were under the direction of G. B. McElroy, of Adrian College

SECOND DAY.

Saturday Morning, May 19, 1888.

The Conference was called to order at 9 A. M., by President Jones. Scripture reading and opening prayer by F. T. Tagg. After singing

19. Persons not members having business with the Conference, shall present their business to the appropriate committees, who may, in their discretion, recommend that the persons applying be heard by the Conference; or the committee itself may bring the business, if deemed of sufficient importance, to the notice of the Conference.

20. No one shall be constituted an honorary member. But persons duly presented to the President by the committee on Fraternal Relations, and by the President presented to the Conference, may be invited to a seat within the bar; and, by vote, may be permitted to address the Conference on any specified subject.

After the benediction by B. F. Duggan, of Tennessee, the Conference took a recess until 2 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Upon resuming business in the afternoon, F. N. Foster and George W. Doty were seated as ministerial and lay delegate, respectively from the Genesee Conference.

The following Committee on Pulpit Supply was appointed: G. B. McElroy, J. S. Thrap and A. L. Reynolds.

By motion of L. W. Bates, the President and Secretary were instructed to send by telegram to C. S. Evans, Springfield, a word of sympathy and prayer, in this the time of his severe illness.

The President, W. S. Hammond, presented to the General Conference, in behalf of the Maryland Conference, a trunk of more than usual strength, in which to keep the books and papers of the General Conference.

The following resolution, offered by T. B. Graham, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the trunk presented by the Maryland Conference to the General Conference for the preservation of the books and papers of the Conference, be gratefully received, and that the thanks of this Conference be tendered to the donors for the same.

It was announced that Benny Reynolds and Tommy Stephens would act as messengers for the Conference.

The following list of Standing Committees, with the number composing each, was adopted:

Paper from a committee appointed by trustees of Adrian College was referred to Committee on Education.

Paper by C. E. Crenshaw and Hugh Stackhouse was referred to Committee on Revision.

Paper on the proper observance of the Sabbath was referred to Committee on Sabbath.

Paper relating to the boundary of the North Carolina Conference was referred to Committee on Boundaries.

The petition of J. Clay, appealing from the Maryland Conference, for having placed his name on the unstationed list, to this Conference was referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

All matter relating to the revision of our hymn book was ordered referred to Committee on Publication.

Papers by J. F. Cowan and Hugh Stackhouse were referred to Committee on Ritual.

Paper from Iowa Conference, asking the appointment of a Home Mission Secretary, was referred to Committee on Missions.

Paper by J. H. C. McKinney and Hugh Stackhouse was referred to Committee on Revision.

Paper by C. E. Crenshaw and D. O. Stanfill was referred to the Committee on Revision.

Papers from Reformed Episcopal Church was referred to Committee on Fraternal Relations.

The Committee on Pulpit Supply made its report for Sabbath, May 20, 1888, as follows :

PLYMOUTH M. P. CHURCH.—Morning, David Jones. Evening, W. L. Wells.

BAPTIST CHURCH.—Morning, T. H. Lewis. Evening, Mark B. Taylor.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Morning, L. W. Bates. Evening, R. H. Wills.

M. E. CHURCH.—Morning, S. A. Fisher. Evening, Lyman E. Davis.

INDUSTRIAL HOME.—Morning, 10 o'clock, J. F. Cowan. Afternoon, 3 o'clock, A. H. Widney.

DEAN'S OPERA HOUSE.—Afternoon, 3 o'clock, F. M. Hussey.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—L. D. Stultz.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, DOVER.—Thomas Kelley.

TIFFIN, OHIO.—F. T. Tagg.

The report of the committee was adopted.

On motion the Conference took a recess until 2 P. M.

"Come thou Fount of every Blessing," prayer by J. R. Botts, singing, "A Charge to Keep I Have," and prayer by M. L. Jennings, the roll was called and members present and absent noted.

The minutes of the last session, together with those of the evening services, were read and approved.

The Committee on Credentials reported the names of W. A. Fogle, of Missouri; W. D. Tomkinson and J. W. Burlington, of West Michigan; and H. S. Swetnam, of Kentucky, which were added to the roll of members.

The report of the Commissioners to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, appointed in 1884, was read by G. B. McElroy, chairman of the committee. The report was accepted and the thanks of the Conference tendered the Commissioners for the faithful performance of their duties. (See report, page 71.)

The report of the Messengers to the Congregational Methodist Church Conference, held in Lee Co., Alabama, May, 1885, was read and referred to a special committee of five. (See report of Committee on Communications, page 69.)

It was ordered that all papers presented to the Conference should be read and referred without debate to the proper committees.

Papers relating to the revision of the Discipline, by E. J. Drinkhouse and Thos. Kelley, were read and referred to the Committee on Revision.

The Journals of the Michigan and the Indiana Conference, and all similar journals, were ordered referred to Committee on Journals.

A communication from the Minnesota Conference was referred to the Committee on Missions.

A communication from the Colorado Conference was referred to Committee on Journals and to Committee on Boundaries.

Paper by R. H. Wills, of N. C., was referred to Committee on Revision.

Paper from General Conference of M. E. Church, relating to the calling of a national convention of the leading evangelical bodies to awaken public sentiment, and to devise measures to check the growing tendency to Sabbath desecration, was referred to a special Committee on the Sabbath.

Paper from Seattle, Washington Territory, was ordered placed on file.

Paper presented by Hugh Stackhouse and W. M. Van Vleet was referred to Committee on Revision.

Secretary Fleming announced as his assistants L. D. Stultz, of New Jersey, and J. R. Hatch, of Onondaga.

President Jones announced the members of the several committees. Including those afterwards appointed, the list is as follows:

COMMITTEE ON PUBLISHING HOUSES.

MINISTERS.

T. B. Graham,
A. W. Robertson,
Wm. Hastings,
W. M. Strayer,
T. J. Ogburn,

LAYMEN.

J. R. Caton,
James P. Sayre,
C. W. Button,
Warner Mills,
F. C. Griffin.

COMMITTEE ON PULPIT SUPPLY.

G. B. McElroy,
J. S. Thrap,
A. L. Reynolds,

COMMITTEE ON BOUNDARIES.

J. M. P. Hickerson,
W. M. Van Vleet,
D. G. Helmick,
John R. Botts,

Ira C. Post,
J. W. Murphy,
Wm. Wilson.

COMMITTEE ON REVISION.

L. W. Bates,
G. B. McElroy,
F. T. Tagg,

J. M. Hadley,
W. W. McCaslin.

COMMITTEE ON FRATERNAL RELATIONS.

L. D. Stultz,
R. H. Wills,

N. G. Ferguson.

COMMITTEE ON ECUMENICAL CONFERENCE.

J. D. Kinzer,
Hugh Stackhouse,
C. S. Bradley,

George W. Doty,
C. E. Crenshaw.

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY.

M. L. Barnett,
J. D. Kinzer,
S. W. Coe,
Lyman E. Davis,

J. W. Hering,
C. J. Yingling,
Arthur W. Mathews.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The President being absent, the Secretary called the Conference to order, and J. R. Botts, of Pennsylvania, to the chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by L. W. Bates, of Maryland. Papers were presented and referred to the proper committees as follows:

On Judiciary by Onondaga Conference.

On Course of Study by Onondaga Conference.

On Ritual by G. P. Miller, also by L. W. Bates.

On Finance by S. A. Fisher and others.

On Revision by Onondaga Conference; by John G. Coldwell; by J. H. Luse; by S. J. Geddes; by Kansas Conference (petition); and two papers by C. E. Crenshaw and G. W. Hissey.

D. S. Stephens, President of Adrian College, invited the Conference to visit the College.

On motion the invitation was accepted, and 3 P. M. was fixed as the time for the visit.

D. S. Stephens, by permission of the Conference, called attention to a book of poems, "Asphodels and Pansies," by Miss Amanda Elizabeth Dennis.

A paper relating to changes in the hymn book was referred to the Committee on Publication.

On motion a committee of five was ordered on publishing the minutes (Journal) of the Conference; also a committee of five on temperance (see list of committees).

Adjourned with the benediction by John Scott, editor of the *Recorder*.

 THIRD DAY.

Monday Morning, May 21, 1888.

The General Conference convened at 9 A. M., and was called to order by the President.

The devotional exercises were conducted by layman Joseph Bentley, of Pittsburgh, who read a selection from the Psalms and led in prayer. The roll was called and members present and absent noted.

The minutes of the last session were read and, after a few corrections, approved.

COMMITTEE ON RITUALS.

MINISTERS.

W. S. Hammond,
F. N. Foster,
George W. Boxell,

LAYMEN.

H. H. Woodard,
A. Alexander.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLISHING MINUTES.

A. W. Robertson,
S. K. Spahr,
F. N. Foster,

U. S. Fleming,
J. C. Roberts.

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS.

S. A. Fisher,
John G. Coldwell,
Wm. D. Tomkinson,

J. D. Baker,
W. J. Spear.

COMMITTEE ON SABBATH.

H. S. Swetnam,
J. C. Berrien,
J. J. Mason,

W. J. Aydelotte,
J. N. Peirpoint.

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

F. M. Hussey,
W. M. Van Vleet,
W. A. Fogle,

G. P. Miller,
G. B. Moon.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Hugh Stackhouse,
J. T. Murray,
Lyman E. Davis,

L. D. Swisher,
M. H. Holt.

COMMITTEE ON CHURCH EXTENSION.

Mark B. Taylor,
S. J. Geddes,
J. R. Hatch,

W. K. Gillespie,
Z. Patterson,
W. L. Bailey,
S. J. Badcock.

COMMITTEE ON ENTERTAINMENT.

A. L. Reynolds,

J. B. Walker.

COMMITTEE ON DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PENNSYLVANIA AND
NEW YORK CONFERENCES.

A. W. Robertson,
J. B. Thomas,

J. M. McHenry.

Fifteenth Quadrennial Session.

COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

MINISTERS.

J. F. Cowan,
F. M. Hussey,
W. L. Wells,

LAYMEN.

D. O. Stanfill,
James M. Eades.

COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS.

Thos. Kelley,
J. L. Scarborough,
J. H. Luse,

W. J. Spear,
J. F. Harris.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

M. L. Jennings,
D. L. Greenfield,
J. H. C. McKinney,
W. H. McChesney,
Benjamin Stout,

J. B. Thomas,
Joseph Bentley,
Boyd McCormick,
W. J. C. Dulany,
W. C. Whitaker.

COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

D. S. Stephens,
J. T. Murray,
G. W. Hissey,
Oliver Lowther,
F. M. Totten,

J. M. Adamson,
Horace Burrough,
J. W. Calcote,
J. M. McHenry,
H. J. Heinz.

COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Mark B. Taylor,
H. H. McNeil,
S. J. Geddes,
J. R. Ball,
J. R. Hatch,

W. K. Gillespie,
Z. Patterson,
W. L. Bailey,
J. W. Hull,
S. J. Badcock.

COMMITTEE ON JOURNALS.

J. S. Thrap,
J. E. Bounds,
H. B. Cox,
A. L. McKeever,
C. McSmith,

Wm. Mearns,
N. Hill,
J. W. Strickler,
John Linn,
A. T. Corbit.

COMMITTEE ON COURSE OF STUDY.

G. B. McElroy,
T. H. Lewis,
B. F. Duggan,
M. C. Jackson,

J. F. Burdine,
Samuel Vannort,
L. Hawk.

It was ordered that the elections of the officers and Boards of the church take place Thursday, May 24, at 2 o'clock P. M.

After announcements, and the benediction by E. J. Drinkhouse, the Conference took a recess until 2 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The devotional exercises were conducted by Lyman E. Davis. After singing "Nearer My God to Thee," "Jesus, Lover of My Soul," and prayer by T. B. Graham, the Conference proceeded to business.

Five papers were referred to the Committee on Revision; two papers to Boundaries; one to Missions, and one to Publishing Houses.

Adjourned, with the benediction by D. L. Greenfield, of Baltimore.

FOURTH DAY.

Tuesday Morning, May 22, 1888.

Conference opened at 9 o'clock A. M., and the religious exercises were conducted by Hugh Stackhouse, of Indiana, who read the twelfth chapter of Isaiah and led in prayer. After singing "Rock of Ages," and prayer by W. D. Tomkinson, of Michigan, the President announced the names of the members composing the Committees on Temperance and Finance. (See list of committees.)

Two papers relating to changes in Discipline were referred to Committee on Revision.

The roll of committees was called, and the Committee on Revision made a partial report. (See report, page 42.)

During the consideration of this report, D. S. Stephens was permitted to explain his vote on item 6 of the report; the order of business was suspended to hear report of J. T. Ward, President of Westminster Theological Seminary, which was referred to Committee on Ministerial Education; the Committee on Entertainment, in behalf of the citizens of Adrian, invited the members of the Conference to join them in a ride at 4 o'clock P. M., to places of interest in the city and its vicinity. The invitation was accepted. Adjourned with the benediction by B. F. Duggan.

COMMITTEE ON PREPARATION OF COPY OF REVISED DISCIPLINE.

MINISTERS.

A. W. Robertson,
J. F. Cowan,

LAYMEN.

W. K. Gillespie.

COMMITTEE ON ARTICLES OF FAITH.

J. D. Kinzer,
J. S. Thrap,
J. R. Ball,

Joseph Bentley,
W. W. McCaslin.

COMMITTEE TO REVISE AND FORMULATE ARTICLES OF FAITH.

L. W. Bates,
B. F. Duggan,
J. S. Thrap,
T. J. Ogburn,
T. H. Lewis,

G. B. McElroy,
J. J. Smith,
John Scott,
A. W. Robertson.

On motion, the Louisiana Mission Conference was transferred to the list of regular Conferences.

The Committee on Entertainment invited the Conference to a reception in South Hall this evening, 7.30 o'clock. The invitation was accepted.

The Committee on Pulpit Supply recommended that Tuesday evening be devoted to Home and Foreign Mission interests, under the direction of the President and Secretary of Board of Missions, and that Wednesday evening be devoted to educational interests, under the direction of T. H. Lewis and D. S. Stephens. The recommendations were adopted.

Minister Bagley, of Oregon, was introduced to the Conference and invited to a seat within the bar.

Papers relating to the revision of the Discipline, to Boundaries, Missions and Publishing Houses were referred to the proper committees.

The report of the Executive Committee and Treasurer of the Board of Ministerial Education, read by G. B. McElroy, was referred to the Committee on Ministerial Education, also the report of the Corresponding Secretary, J. B. Walker.

The report of Western Maryland College was referred to Committee on Education.

On motion, the Secretaries were instructed to have a list of the Committees printed.

motion, its consideration was deferred in order to continue the discussion of the report of the Committee on Missions.

The consideration of this latter report was also suspended to hear report of Board of Publication, read by W. K. Gillespie, of Pittsburgh. It was referred to Committee on Publishing Houses. Upon taking up the paper reported by the Committee on Revision, licensing women to preach, which paper the committee referred to the Conference, the order of business was suspended, and Mrs. M. A. Miller, Mrs. W. K. Gillespie, Mrs. J. E. Palmer, Mrs. G. B. Dotson and Mrs. S. K. Spahr were introduced to the Conference and invited to seats within the bar of the house.

The report of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was now read by Mrs. Miller and referred to the Committee on Missions. On resuming the business suspended the paper licensing women to preach was recommitted.

Papers by F. T. Tagg and Thos. Kelley were referred to Committee on Revision, and another paper to Committee on Course of Study.

After the benediction by L. D. Stultz, the Conference took a recess until 2 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Conference was called to order by the President, and the opening devotional exercises conducted by S. A. Fisher, of Muskingum. After singing "Arise, my Soul, arise," and prayer by T. H. Lewis, of Western Maryland College, the Committee on Revision resumed its report. (See page 42.)

Papers were received and referred to Committee on Publishing Houses, and to Committee on Boundaries.

The Committee on Communications made its report through J. G. Coldwell. (See page 69.) The report was adopted.

The report of the Committee on Sunday-schools was read and acted upon, item by item. The report as adopted will be found on page 38.

Item first of the report was referred to the Committee on Revision; items second and third adopted; item fourth was stricken out; and item fifth was adopted after being amended so as to specify the season of flowers as the time for observing Children's Day, and the autumn season as the time for Harvest Home College Day. The report thus amended was adopted as a whole.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The report of the Committee on Revision was resumed in the afternoon, but was laid on the table after the adoption of the 23d item. The President then introduced Bros. Robison, Gregory, Wilbur, Phipps, McCracken and Wilson.

A communication from the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, relating to rules for the government of said society, was referred first to the Committee on Revision, afterwards to the Committee on Missions.

A paper on the need of more missionaries was referred to the Committee on Ministerial Education.

The report of the Board of Missions, read by F. T. Tagg, was referred to the Committee on Missions.

A paper relating to the revision of Discipline was referred to the proper committee.

The report of the Committee on Missions was made the order of the day for 9.30 o'clock A. M., Wednesday.

J. G. Coldwell, of Georgia, presented a paper that was referred to its proper committee, that of Revision.

The Committee on Revision resumed its report. (See page 42.)

The item of the report giving authority to Annual Conferences to license women to preach, was made the order of the day, Wednesday, 10.30 o'clock A. M.

On motion, the Conference adjourned to meet at night in missionary meeting under the direction of the officers of the Board of Missions. Benediction by T. B. Graham.

FIFTH DAY.

Wednesday, May 23, 1888.

Conference convened at the appointed hour.

Devotional exercises by R. H. Wills, of North Carolina, who read the 145th Psalm and offered prayer. The roll was called and marked and the minutes read and approved. The hour for the order of the day having arrived, the report of the Committee on Missions was taken up, read, and after much discussion recommitted. The paper licensing women to preach was taken up at 10.30 o'clock, but, on

which should go to the Committees on Revision and Missions. They were so referred.

T. H. Lewis presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Board of Publication be instructed to publish in full the reports made to this Conference by the various official institutions of the church.

The benediction was pronounced by B. F. Duggan, of Tennessee, and Conference took a recess until 2 o'clock, P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The opening devotional exercises were conducted by J. M. P. Hickerson, of Louisiana. After singing "A Charge to Keep I Have," and prayer by S. K. Spahr, the order of the day was taken up, being the election of the officers and Boards of the church.

On motion, Conference proceeded to the election of editor of the *Methodist Recorder* and publishing agent, at Pittsburgh.

D. S. Stephens, John Scott, M. L. Jennings, A. H. Widney and Lyman E. Davis were nominated for editor of the *Recorder*.

A. H. Widney withdrew his name.

F. T. Tagg, Joseph Bentley and S. K. Spahr were appointed tellers. While the tellers were preparing ballots, the Committee on Pulpit Supply announced that B. F. Duggan, of Tennessee, would preach in Plymouth Church to-night.

The President, also, announced the members of the Special Committee on Church Extension. (See list.)

The first ballot for editor of the *Recorder* resulted in the election of D. S. Stephens.

For publisher and book agent at Pittsburgh the following were nominated: Wm. McCracken, Jr., C. F. Swift and J. W. Hull, but Mr. Hull withdrew his name.

The ballot being taken, Wm. McCracken, Jr., having received a majority of the votes cast, was declared elected.

The Conference next proceeded to the election of editor of the *Methodist Protestant*, and the following were placed in nomination: E. J. Drinkhouse and T. H. Lewis, but Mr. Lewis withdrew. E. J. Drinkhouse received a majority of the votes cast and was declared elected.

Theodore Cocheu, superintendent of Trinity Sunday-School, Brooklyn, was introduced to the Conference.

A resolution by C. E. Crenshaw was laid on the table. Adjourned with the benediction.

SIXTH DAY.

Thursday Morning, May 24, 1888.

Conference was opened with Scripture reading and prayer by L. W. Bates, of Maryland. The roll was called and members present and absent noted. The minutes of the preceding session were read and adopted. Papers by J. H. Luse and A. L. McKeever were referred to Committee on Judiciary and to Committee on Boundaries, respectively. Two additional papers were referred to Committees on Finance and Revision.

The Committee on Revision continued its report from item twenty-five to item thirty-eight.

The report of the Committee on Publishing Minutes of General Conference was read and adopted. (See page 37.)

The Committee on Ritual made a partial report from item one to five, the latter item, relating to form of certificate of membership, being recommitted with instruction to the committee to prepare a form.

The Committee on Missions made a report, part of which was adopted, part recommitted and the remainder withdrawn.

It was ordered that the Committee on Pulpit Supply be authorized to arrange for a service of prayer for the World's Mission Conference, which soon convenes in London, England.

On motion James P. Sayre, J. R. Caton and J. M. McHenry were requested to assist the Committee on Missions.

A paper by T. H. Lewis was referred to Committee on Ritual.

A resolution by W. M. Strayer relating to the organization of a Church Extension Society was referred to a special committee of seven, three ministers and four laymen. (See Committee on Church Extension.)

The Committee on Pulpit Supply announced a temperance mass meeting for Friday, 7.30 o'clock P. M. The report was adopted.

The Committee on Finance reported two papers in its possession

WHEREAS, Information having come to this General Conference of the death of Brother Shade Dawson, President of the Alabama Conference ; therefore, be it *Resolved*, That we, the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, do hereby extend to the bereaved family of our brother, and to the Alabama Colored Conference, our deepest sympathy in this their hour of great affliction.

The Conference then proceeded to the election of a Board of Missions ; but, on motion, the nomination of the Board was left to the Committee on Missions.

The election of the other general officers was laid on the table. Two papers were referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

The report of the Committee on Temperance was read and acted upon item by item. The preamble and first item were adopted as read. Item second and item third were amended and adopted. (See page 39.) Item fourth and item fifth, relating to the use of tobacco, were laid on the table. Item sixth, recognizing the work of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, was adopted.

The hour for selecting a place for the meeting of the next General Conference having arrived, Westminster, Md.; Corsicana, Texas; Cincinnati, Ohio; Seattle, Washington Territory; and Atlanta, Georgia, were placed in nomination. On motion the roll was called and each member named the place for which he voted. Westminster receiving a majority of all votes cast was selected, and on motion the vote was made unanimous.

A collection was ordered taken for the sexton of Plymouth Church; it amounted to \$18.64.

The Conference took a recess until 2 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

In the absence of the President, the Secretary called the Conference to order. Devotional exercises were conducted by M. L. Barnett, of West Virginia.

F. C. Griffin, L. D. Swisher, Z. Patterson, D. G. Helmick and F. T. Tagg were granted leave of absence for the remainder of the Conference session.

The Committee on Publishing Houses was granted leave of absence for the afternoon.

The report of the Committee on Judiciary (see page 41) was read and acted upon as follows :

On motion, the Secretary cast the vote of the Conference for Wm. J. C. Dulany for publisher and book agent at Baltimore.

For Book Directory at Pittsburgh, the Secretary, on motion, cast the ballot of the Conference for Wm. P. Herbert, W. K. Gillespie, Nathan Jones, S. A. Fisher and John Gregory.

In like manner Horace Burrough, John G. Clark, J. T. Murray, J. W. Hering and John D. Kinzer were elected Book Directory at Baltimore.

On further motion, John G. Clark was elected President of the Board of Publication, and Nathan Jones Secretary.

The Secretary, by instruction, cast the ballot of the Conference for J. F. Cowan as editor of our Sunday-school literature.

The motion to postpone the election of Secretary of the Board of Home and Foreign Missions was lost, and the Conference proceeded to ballot. F. T. Tagg and S. K. Spahr were nominated, but the latter withdrew.

The ballot resulted in the election of F. T. Tagg as Corresponding Secretary of Home and Foreign Missions.

Eleven o'clock A. M., Friday, was designated as the time for selecting the place of meeting of the next General Conference.

After announcements, the Conference adjourned, with the benediction by J. B. Walker.

SEVENTH DAY.

Friday, May 25, 1888.

Conference was called to order by the President. The devotional exercises were, singing "Nearer My God to Thee," reading the 24th Psalm and prayer by W. M. Van Vleet, of Iowa. The Conference was again led in prayer by T. J. Ogburn, of North Carolina.

The roll was called, and members present and absent noted. The minutes of the preceding session were read and approved. E. J. Wilson, an alternate, of West Virginia Conference, was seated in the place of D. G. Helmick, who had returned home.

The order of the day, the election of the remaining general officers of the church, was suspended, to hear the resolution offered by D. O. Stanfill, referring to the death of Shade Dawson, President of the Alabama (colored) Conference. The resolution adopted was as follows:

Adrian College as follows: G. B. McElroy, C. E. Wilbur, A. L. Reynolds, W. H. Howard and W. Ferguson, was adopted.

Item 6, recommending Examining Committee at Westminster as follows: J. T. Ward, J. T. Murray, T. H. Lewis, J. W. Hering and Chas. Billingslea, was adopted.

Item 7, recommending Board of Governors for Westminster Theological Seminary as follows: L. D. Stultz, C. E. Crenshaw, J. C. Roberts, Benjamin Stout and J. W. Hull, was adopted.

Item 8, relating to an alleged irregularity in the employment by the Board of an agent, at Adrian, was adopted.

Item 9, authorizing the Board of Ministerial Education to employ an agent, was recommitted. Being again reported, it was adopted after striking out "an agent" and inserting "the Corresponding Secretary."

Item 10, instructing Board to have articles of incorporation amended, was adopted, and the report adopted as a whole.

A motion to adjourn to-day's session was amended so as to read "When we adjourn, we adjourn at 5 o'clock P. M.," and then adopted.

On motion it was ordered that only so much of the report of the Board of Ministerial Education as relates to the Constitution, be entered in the Discipline.

Adjourned with the benediction by L. D. Stultz.

EIGHTH DAY.

Saturday Morning, May 26, 1888.

The Conference was called to order by the President, and devotional exercises were conducted by J. R. Hatch, of Onondago Conference. The roll was called and marked, and the minutes read and approved, after a few corrections.

On motion the Conference proceeded to the election of the Board of Ministerial Education and Corresponding Secretary of the Board. On motion the Secretary cast the vote of the Conference for G. G. Westfall, W. P. Herbert, Wm. Hastings and J. H. Claney as the Board, and for J. B. Walker as Corresponding Secretary.

The report of the Committee on Boundaries was read and acted upon item by item. (See page 51.)

Item 1, relating to passing the official character of members by the Annual Conferences, was adopted.

Item 2, asking to which body probationers in an Annual Conference are answerable to the Quarterly Conference or Annual Conference, was adopted. The committee recommends an additional section immediately after section seven, page 57, as follows (see report):

Item 3, relating to plans for raising pastor's salaries, was adopted.

Item 4, relating to the transfer of J. Clay to the unstationed list, was adopted.

The Committee on Judiciary was granted leave of absence.

The report of the Committee on Church Extension was read and acted upon *seriatim*. (See page 50).

Item 1 was amended so as to locate the Board of Home Missions at Grafton, and by adding to the last of the item these words: "Or until their successors are elected," and then adopted.

Items 2, 4 and 6 were adopted as read. Item 3 was recommitted, but being again reported it was amended by adding the words, "Provided that such salaries shall not exceed 25 per cent. of the collections," and adopted. The motion to reconsider the vote by which it was adopted was laid on the table.

Item 5 was amended by striking out the words, "*per capita*," and adopted.

Item 7, recommending members of Board of Home Missions was recommitted. Being again reported with changes, it was adopted. The Board is composed of S. A. Fisher, M. L. Barnett, S. K. Spahr, J. H. Hawkins, F. M. Durbin and F. H. Peirpont.

Report of committee was adopted as a whole.

The report of the Committee on Ministerial Education was read and acted upon *seriatim*. (See page 58.)

Item 1, being the Constitution, was read and after a few amendments, adopted.

Item 2, requiring Board to make an annual financial statement of amount received by beneficiaries, was amended and adopted.

Item 3, relating to the endowment of Western Maryland College, was adopted.

Item 4, recommending members of Board of Ministerial Education as follows: G. G. Westfall, J. H. Claney, Wm. P. Herbert and Wm. Hastings, was adopted.

Item 5, recommending members of Examining Committee at

STATE INDUSTRIAL HOME.—Morning, 10 o'clock, J. R. Hatch ; Afternoon, 3 o'clock, S. J. Geddes.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—F. N. Foster.

DEAN'S OPERA HOUSE.—Afternoon, 3 o'clock, C. McSmith.

BLISSFIELD CIRCUIT.—B. Stout, F. M. Totten.

TIFFIN CHURCH.—T. J. Ogburn.

PRAYER FOR WORLD'S CONGRESS OF MISSIONS.—Plymouth M. P. Church, Afternoon, L. W. Bates.

The Committee on Judiciary made a final report, as follows:

Item 5, defining what relation a minister transferred to the unstationed list sustains to the Quarterly Conference, was adopted and the report as a whole.

On motion it was ordered that no new matter be presented to any of the Standing Committees after 4 P. M. to-day.

Conference took a recess until 2 P. M., with the benediction by J. M. P. Hickerson, of Louisiana.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The President being absent, the Secretary called L. W. Bates to the chair. On motion the whole chapel was considered within the bar.

The following were constituted a Committee on Resolution of Thanks: Lyman E. Davis, J. M. P. Hickerson, W. M. Van Vleet.

The report of the Committee on Missions having been appointed for this hour, it was taken up, and the order of the day for 3 P. M. suspended until 3:15 P. M.

On motion the minority report was adopted instead of the first item of the majority report.

T. H. Lewis, J. W. Hering, J. R. Caton and I. C. Post were excused from further attendance upon the Conference.

The order of the day, the report of the Committee on Publishing Houses, was again suspended in order to continue the report of the Committee on Missions.

The committee recommended as the Board of Foreign Missions the following: J. B. Graham, C. S. Evans, G. B. McElroy, T. J. Ogburn, O. V. W. Chandler, Wm. White, W. W. McCaslin, C. J. Yingling and L. W. Bates; and as the Executive Committee of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society: Mrs. W. K. Gillespie, Mrs. M. A. Miller, Mrs. J. D. Anderson, Mrs. J. E. Palmer, Mrs. F. A. Brown,

Items 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14 and 15 were adopted as read.

Item 2, defining Central Texas District was adopted after striking out the words, "the McCain District."

Item 7, defining New York District, was amended to read as it now is in the Discipline.

A resolution as follows, offered by E. J. Drinkhouse, was adopted:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this General Conference that the matter of territory and superannuated money in dispute between the Pennsylvania and the New York Conferences, should be by them equitably adjusted at their ensuing sessions.

Item 10, in relation to the Virginia District, was recommitted.

Item 11, defining the West Virginia District, was amended so as to embrace Mount Morris, Taylorstown and Avery Circuits in Pennsylvania.

On motion it was ordered that a session be held to-night, and that the session this afternoon and that of to-night be held in the chapel. A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The report of the Committee on Missions was made the order of the day for 2 P. M.

On motion a paper presented by J. R. Botts, of Pennsylvania, was referred to a special committee of three. The committee afterwards appointed was A. W. Robertson, J. M. McHenry, and J. B. Thomas.

The report of the Committee on Publishing Houses was made the order of the day for 3 P. M.

J. D. Kinzer, J. R. Ball, J. S. Thrap, Joseph Bentley, and W. W. McCaslin were appointed a Committee on Articles of Faith, in accord with a resolution presented by E. J. Drinkhouse.

A paper by Hugh Stackhouse was referred to the Committee on Revision.

The report of the Committee on Boundaries was ordered taken up at the opening of the night session.

The report of Committee on Pulpit Supply for Sabbath, May 27, 1888, was read and approved. The report was as follows:

PLYMOUTH M. P. CHURCH.—Morning, 10 o'clock, J. T. Murray. Evening, 7 o'clock, Wm. Hastings.

M. E. CHURCH.—Morning, 10 o'clock, E. J. Drinkhouse. Evening, 7 o'clock, A. W. Robertson.

BAPTIST CHURCH.—Morning, 10 o'clock, J. D. Kinzer. Evening, 7 o'clock, W. M. Strayer.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Morning, 10 o'clock, M. B. Taylor. Evening, 7 o'clock, M. L. Jennings.

and J. W. Hull were appointed tellers. On the third ballot, Benjamin Stout having the greatest number, the Secretary, on motion of A. W. Robertson, was ordered to cast the ballot of the Conference for him, hence Mr. Stout was elected.

O. V. W. Chandler's name was substituted for Benjamin Stout's on Board of Foreign Missions.

A motion to reconsider the vote by which the office of the Board of Home Missions was located at Grafton was pending when Conference adjourned.

At the close of the session, Pastor A. L. Reynolds, of Plymouth Church, was called before the Conference, when W. L. Wells, in appropriate words, gave him, on behalf of the Conference, a fine gold watch for his services to the Conference and to the church.

Adjourned with the benediction.

NIGHT SESSION.

President Jones being absent, the Secretary called James P. Sayre to the chair. After devotional exercises the order of the day, report of the Committee on Boundaries, was suspended to hear S. J. Geddes on the motion to reconsider, pending which, the Conference had adjourned. The motion to reconsider was lost.

The Committee on Boundaries made its final report. The following items were adopted: 16. Defining Tennessee District; 17, discontinuing West Tennessee; 10 (being a recommitted item), defining Virginia district; 18, recommending time for holding the consolidated Arkansas Conferences; and 19, specifying that all Conference Districts not mentioned heretofore in this report shall remain as described in the Book of Discipline of 1884.

The report of the Committee on Education was taken up and acted upon *seriatim* and adopted as a whole. (See page 50.)

The following resolution, by D. S. Stephens, was adopted:

Resolved, That this General Conference hereby order the continuance of the annual collections for the colleges by the churches of the Methodist Protestant Church.

A resolution of thanks, by C. W. Button and W. M. Strayer, was adopted unanimously.

J. E. Bounds and N. G. Ferguson were granted leave of absence.

Mrs. A. R. O'Brien, Mrs. I. D. Coxson, Mrs. S. K. Spahr and Mrs. M. J. Morgan.

The report of the committee was adopted.

On motion, it was ordered that what is in the Discipline, on pages 88, 89, 90 and 91, relating to the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, be stricken out.

The following resolution, presented by Wm. J. C. Dulany, was adopted :

After the last sentence on page 121 add the following : " After which he shall present the person a copy of our church Discipline."

The following by the same was adopted :

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to supervise the publication of the Discipline.

A resolution by J. T. Murray, as below, was adopted unanimously:

Resolved, That this General Conference express its high appreciation of the efficiency and fidelity with which G. B. McElroy has performed the duties of Treasurer of the Board of Missions, and also its sense of obligation to him for this valuable service.

The report of the Committee on Publishing Houses was taken up, and, after a slight amendment, adopted as a whole. (See page 73.)

The following resolution by James P. Sayre was adopted :

Resolved, That it is the judgment of this Conference that no money be expended upon the Book Room property at Pittsburgh, save for ordinary repairs, until the legal title to the property is perfected and all reserved rights discharged.

The *Woman's Missionary Record* was recommended by the Conference to the patronage of the people.

The report (final) of the Committee on Revision was read and taken up, item by item, from 39 to 44. The report was adopted as a whole. (See page 42.)

The Committee on Temperance made a final report relating to bills before Congress for the suppression of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in the District of Columbia. This last item was adopted and the report as a whole. (See page 39.)

On motion, the Conference proceeded to the election of the Secretary of the Board of Home Missions.

The nominees were A. W. Robertson, Hugh Stackhouse, Benjamin Stout, S. J. Geddes, S. K. Spahr and B. F. Duggan. S. J. Geddes withdrew ; also B. F. Duggan after the first ballot. J. D. Kinzer

was dying, a committee of four, consisting of T. B. Graham, D. S. Stephens, Oliver Lowther and J. D. Kinzer was appointed to send a telegram of condolence to his family.

The report of the Committee on Articles of Faith was read and re-committed, with instructions to embody the paper presented by E. J. Drinkhouse in their report.

The report of the Committee on Statistics was read, in part, and adopted as a whole.

The special Committee on Articles of Faith again reported and the report was adopted (see page 36) after inserting an additional item and substituting the words, "Articles of Faith," for "Doctrinal Creed" wherever the latter occurs. The committee appointed to formulate the Articles of Faith are:—L. W. Bates, G. B. McElroy, B. F. Duggan, A. W. Robertson and T. H. Lewis, J. J. Smith, J. S. Thrap, John Scott, T. J. Ogburn.

The report of the Committee on Finance was read and adopted. (See page 65).

A motion to suspend the order of business was lost.

The report of the Committee on Journals was read and adopted, after inserting North Carolina Journal in the list of those examined. (See page 37).

The report of the Committee on Resolution was adopted. (See page 40).

The motion to reconsider Item 3, of the report of the Committee on Church Extension was taken from the table, reconsidered and the words, "Provided that such salaries shall not exceed 25 per cent. of the collections," were stricken out.

The report of the Committee on the Sabbath was read and adopted after striking out all preceding the word "whereas," and after inserting the following:

Resolved, That we discountenance the Sunday reading of secular newspapers.

Motions (1) to adjourn at 12 o'clock and (2) to take a recess until 1 o'clock were lost, and the motion to extend the time indefinitely prevailed.

The report of the Committee on Course of Study was read and adopted after inserting the names of the authors,—Summers, Sully, Hoppin and Kidder; and the following resolution by E. J. Drinkhouse: "This Course of Study is to be mandatory only on such Annual Conferences as have no course of study."

On motion, it was ordered that Conference adjourn finally at 12 o'clock Monday.

A resolution of thanks to the reporters was offered and adopted unanimously.

Leave of absence was granted the representatives of the Arkansas and West Arkansas Conferences.

Adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock A. M., Monday, May 28.

NINTH DAY.

Monday, May 28, 1888.

Conference met shortly after 8 o'clock, and was called to order by the President. Religious exercises were conducted by Oliver Lowther, of West Virginia. The calling of the roll was omitted.

On motion, the Secretary was instructed to prepare the minutes of the Conference for the *Journal*, or to employ some one to do the same, the expense to be met by the Board of Publication.

On motion, the Revised Discipline was ordered published at the Pittsburgh Directory.

W. K. Gillespie, of Pittsburgh, presented the following resolutions, which were adopted :

1. *Resolved*, That a committee of three be appointed by the Chair to prepare the copy for the revised Discipline for publication.
2. *Resolved*, That the copy for the journal of the General Conference be sent to the Baltimore Directory for publication.

The committee on the former of these is A. W. Robertson, J. F. Cowan and W. K. Gillespie.

The report of the Committee on Ritual was read and adopted *seriatim*. (See page 67.) During the consideration of the report the Conference adjourned to the church auditorium.

The report of the Committee on Fraternal Relations was read and adopted. (See page 36.)

On motion, W. S. Hammond was elected Fraternal Messenger to the General Council of the Reformed Episcopal Church.

The report of the Committee on Ecumenical Conference was read and adopted.

The report of the Special Committee on Differences Between Pennsylvania and New York Conference was read and adopted.

Upon receipt of a telegram stating that C. S. Evans, of Springfield,

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, ETC.

Report of Committee on Ecumenical Conference.

[ADOPTED.]

The Committee on Ecumenical Conference would respectfully submit the following report :

WHEREAS, It seems to be the desire and expectation of all branches of the Methodist family that there should be an Ecumenical Conference in the United States in 1891 ; and,

WHEREAS, Your committee has no positive information of the exact time or place of the meeting, or of the ratio of representation determined upon ; therefore,

Resolved (1), That each Annual Conference shall at its next session nominate two persons, one minister and one layman, whose names shall be sent by the Secretary to the committee herein named.

Resolved (2), That we now appoint an Executive Committee, who shall see that we are suitably represented in the proposed Conference, and shall have authority to select from the persons nominated by the Annual Conference the number of representatives to which we, as a church, are entitled.

Resolved (3), That J. T. Murray, S. A. Fisher, T. B. Graham, C. W. Button and James P. Sayre be said Executive Committee.

JOHN D. KINZER, HUGH STACKHOUSE,
GEORGE W. DOTY, C. S. BRADLEY.

Report of Committee on Publishing Minutes.

[ADOPTED.]

Your committee submit the following report :

Resolved (1), That this General Conference direct the Board of Publication to publish, at a *pro rata* of expense, as soon as practicable, 1,500 copies of the *Journal*, and that the *Journals* be offered for sale by both publishing houses.

Resolved (2), That the copy for publication be prepared and supervised by such persons as the Board of Publication, assisted by the President and Secretary of this Conference, may designate.

A. W. ROBERTSON, U. S. FLEMING, *Chairman*,
S. K. SPAHR, J. C. ROBERTS.
F. N. FOSTER,

An overture to the Annual Conferences, as follows, was adopted:

WHEREAS, Some of the Annual Conferences have granted license to women to preach the gospel ;

Resolved, That the following overture is made to the Annual Conferences; viz., That the Constitution be so changed as to grant the power to Annual Conferences to license women to preach the gospel.

A collection taken to defray the expenses of printing, stationery, &c., amounted to \$7.45.

A resolution of thanks to Mrs. A. H. Bassett for valuable gifts to Adrian College was adopted.

A resolution by S. J. Geddes, of Iowa, relating to the extent of time of probationary membership, was lost.

The minutes of this morning's session were read and approved.

After announcements and the adoption of a resolution of thanks to the President and Secretaries, the General Conference adjourned, with the benediction, to meet at Westminster, Maryland, the third Friday in May, 1892.

WHEREAS, The Articles of Religion of the Methodist Protestant Church, as amenable to the Word of God, are the only exponent of the substance of doctrine of said church ; and,

WHEREAS, The teaching, known to Methodism as Wesleyan Arminianism, is not expressed in said Articles of Religion in various essential tenets of it ; and,

WHEREAS, Said Articles of Religion, as originally inserted in the Discipline of the Methodist Protestant Church, have from time to time, by General Conventions and Conferences been amended, supplemented and expunged to their essential detriment; therefore, be it

Resolved (1), That a committee of nine ministers, consisting of L. W. Bates, G. B. McElroy, B. F. Duggan, J. J. Smith, J. S. Thrap, John Scott, T. J. Ogburn, A. W. Robertson and T. H. Lewis are hereby appointed to formulate from the Articles of Religion, as found in the Discipline of the Methodist Protestant Church for 1830, and the recognized standards of Methodist doctrine known as Wesleyan Arminianism, Articles of Faith.

Resolved (2), That said committee shall finish their work by the first day of June, 1890, and shall then refer it to the respective Annual Conferences for acceptance or rejection at the session of said Conferences next ensuing. Their action shall be transmitted to the chairman of the committee, the rejecting conferences to accompany their action with the reasons therefor.

Resolved (3), That said committee shall then review, and perfect the Articles of Faith ; have them published in the official church papers, and then referred to the ensuing General Conference.

Resolved (4), That the reasonable expenses of the Committee for correspondence, printing and personal traveling expenses, in case a majority of them deem it essential to hold one conference meeting, shall be referred by them to the General Conference for liquidation.

Resolved (5), That the committee shall have the power to fill vacancies caused by death, resignation or ceasing to be a member of the Methodist Protestant Church.

Resolved (6), That the duties of this committee shall be restricted to the positive instructions of this paper.

J. D. KINZER, JOSEPH BENTLY,
J. R. BALL, W. W. McCASLIN.
J. S. THRAP,

Report of Committee on Journals.

[ADOPTED.]

Your committee having in charge the work of examining and comparing the journals of the various Annual Conferences represented in the General Conference submit the following as the result of its work :

We had before us the journals of the following Annual Conferences : Alabama, Arkansas, Deep River for 1885, '86 and '87, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa,

Report of Committee on Fraternal Relations.

[ADOPTED.]

Your Committee on Fraternal Relations would respectfully submit the following :

We have the official document of the Eleventh General Council of the Reformed Episcopal Church of the appointment of Rev. J. B. North to represent that body, and express its fraternal feeling to this General Conference.

A letter accompanying the official certificate utters the regret of inability of the messenger to be present with us in person, but expresses gratitude for the brotherly affection extended to them, the youngest branch of the Master's planting. In view of these facts, and as they stand as earnest advocates of reform in things essential to the growth of the church of Christ, and the desire on our part to fraternize in the spirit of Christ ; therefore, be it

Resolved (1), That we pray that they shall be baptized with the unction from on high, and that the great Head of the church shall guide them in every good word and work, and that in all things they shall more than realize their hopes for growth and usefulness.

Resolved (2), That we appoint a messenger to bear the fraternal greetings and Christian sympathy of the Methodist Protestant Church to the General Council of the Reformed Episcopal Church.

L. D. STULTZ, *Chairman.*

Report of Committee on Sabbath.

[ADOPTED.]

We, your Committee on the Sabbath, would respectfully report the following :

WHEREAS, A communication has been received from the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, now in session in New York City, asking for the co-operation of this General Conference in uniting with the leading evangelical bodies of Christians in calling for a national convention, to awaken public sentiment, and to devise measures to check the growing tendency to Sabbath desecration, and to urge the enforcement of State laws and local ordinances designed to secure the proper observance of the Sabbath ; we recommend that this General Conference appoint two of its members, A. W. Robertson and L. D. Stultz, to represent the Methodist Protestant Church at said convention.

Resolved, That we discountenance Sunday reading of secular newspapers.

H. S. SWETNAM,	J. J. MASON,
J. N. PIERPOINT,	WM. MEARNES.
J. C. BERRIEN,	

Report of Committee on Articles of Faith.

[ADOPTED.]

The special Committee on Revision of our Articles of Religion, report for your consideration the following :

ITEM 2. We would further call attention to the weakening and unsatisfactory tendencies of "union" schools, too prevalent among us, and urge that where at all practicable, denominational schools be organized and maintained.

ITEM 3. We find in the report of the Pittsburgh Book Directory the following:

"In 1885 Rev. Thomas New, of Florida, made a bequest to this Directory, to be used in supplying books and periodicals to individuals and Sunday schools unable to purchase them. One thousand dollars has thus far been realized from this bequest. A fund of this kind will aid the Directory in helping to establish new Sunday schools, thus doing valuable home missionary work. It is to be hoped that friends with means may be prompted to add to this fund. We know of no way in which money may be expended with better results."

ITEM 5. We further recommend that this General Conference fix the time for, and give its sanction and authority to, the appointment of Childrens' Missionary Day in the season of flowers, and Harvest Home College Day in Autumn, for annual observance by all the Sunday schools of the Church.

J. F. COWAN, F. M. HUSSEY,
J. M. EADES, D. O. STANFILL,
W. L. WELLS.

Report of Committee on Temperance.

[ADOPTED.]

With pleasure and pride we call attention to the fact that the Methodist Protestant Church has always stood at the front of the most advanced thought and movement on the great question of temperance.

Her General and Annual Conferences have ever assumed the most aggressive attitude against the crime of intemperance; and we believe that in the great struggle that is now upon us, and in which the moral and Christian forces of the nation and the world are now engaged, she will not prove false to her history nor recreant to her trust.

We rejoice in the success of any effort and any measure used to cripple and finally destroy the traffic in alcoholic drinks, and will gladly join in any effort for its restriction which will not compromise our Christian character; but as every form of so called "restriction" by license or taxation tends to entrench the traffic behind the cupidity of the tax-payer and renders us *partes participans* to the crime of its continuance, we, therefore, believe that the only successful way of destroying this hydra-headed monster is by constitutional prohibition, state and national; and that the only efforts in which we as Christian people can engage are those which look towards this end; therefore,

Resolved, (1), That we are unalterably opposed to any form of licence, high or low, as being wrong in principle and pernicious in practice.

Resolved, (2), That any minister or member who makes, buys, sells, or signs a petition for license to sell, uses, or gives to others as a beverage any spirituous or malt liquors, is guilty of immorality and shall be dealt with accordingly.

Resolved, (3), We believe the time has fully come when Christian men should

Kansas, Maryland, Michigan one year, West Michigan, Mississippi one year, 1887, Minnesota, Missouri, Muskingum, New York, New Jersey, North Missouri, North Illinois, North Arkansas for 1887, Ohio, Onondaga, Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh, South Illinois, South Carolina for 1885, '86 and '87, Tennessee, West Virginia, West Arkansas, Louisiana and North Carolina. In all, present and examined—thirty.

Conferences whose journals were not in the hands of the committee : Colorado (Texas), Central Texas, Kentucky, Nebraska, North Mississippi, Texas and Virginia. In all, eight.

Mission Conferences : Oregon, Boston, Baltimore, (colored), California, Colorado, Fort Smith and Spring Creek, (colored). In all, seven.

Whole number of Conferences—forty-five. Whole number of journals present, in whole or in part—thirty ; making the whole number whose journals have not been in the hands of the committee, fifteen.

Of the journals examined your committee are happy to report that, with few exceptions, they find all well arranged, correctly kept, and in a good state of preservation.

Your committee earnestly recommend to Recording Secretaries of Annual Conferences that they make a fair record in *writing*, and not paste printed matter in the journal.

J. S. THRAP,	A. L. M'KEEVER,
WM. MEARNs,	H. B. COX,
JOHN LINN,	N. HILL,
C. M'SMITH.	

Report of Committee on Sunday Schools.

[ADOPTED].

We, your Committee on Sunday schools, report as follows :

ITEM 1. We deem it important to the maintenance of the true relation between Church and Sunday school as one in aim and authority, that the too prevalent tendency toward independency on the part of the school in the matter of supplies, the character of officers and teachers chosen, and the kind, number and disposition of contributions made, be neutralized by a more explicit statement of the disciplinary provision for supervisory authority by the Quarterly Conference over the Sunday schools.

To this end we recommend to the Committee on Revision that Item 7, page 64, of Discipline, be amended by adding after clause " Each Quarterly Conference shall have supervisory authority over all the Sabbath schools belonging to the circuit, station, or mission," the words : " To require that our own papers and lesson helps be used ; to provide that officers and teachers chosen be suitable persons in Christian experience, character and doctrinal belief, and to secure the observance of such missionary, college, and other anniversary days for making offerings in support of the general interests of the Church, as the General Conference may fix or order."

That we are indebted to the *Adrian Times* and to the *Press* for the uniformly trustworthy and appreciative reports of our proceedings in the columns of those papers.

That we shall pray for the blessing of the great Head of the Universal Christian Church upon the ecclesiastical and educational institutions of this fair city, upon all her churches, and especially upon the homes we have learned to love.

LYMAN E. DAVIS,
J. M. P. HICKERSON,
W. M. VAN VLEET.

Report of Committee on Judiciary.

[ADOPTED.]

The Committee on Judiciary, having considered the various questions referred to them, beg leave to make the following report :

QUESTION.—Can an Annual Conference pass the character of any member who stands guilty of neglect of official duty ?

J. H. LUSE,
F. M. HUSSEY.

ANSWER.—Section 2 of Article 7, page 21, gives an Annual Conference the power to pass upon the official character of its ministers.

In case of a charge against any member for neglect of official duty there must be an examination of the charge, and the Conference shall determine whether he is guilty. If the Conference find him guilty his official character cannot pass.

Copy of instruction to their delegates to this General Conference by Onondaga Conference.

Resolved, That we instruct our delegates to the General Conference, to urge said Conference to define more explicitly, to which body probationers in an Annual Conference are answerable for their moral and official conduct, whether to the Quarterly Conference that licenses them, or the Annual Conference.

J. R. HATCH,
F. C. GRIFFIN.

ANSWER.—The committee recommend the following, as an additional section to the Article on "Trial" of ministers, preachers and members, the same to be placed immediately after Section 7, page 57.

In case of the trial of charges against a preacher, the judgment of the Annual Conference can only affect his relations to that body; the Quarterly Conference of which he is a member, being the body to which he shall be amenable for his moral conduct.

QUESTION.—Has an Annual Conference the right to assess the pastors' salaries, and to formulate plans for the collections of the same, when it proves to be more satisfactory than for the Quarterly Conference to make the assessments?

M. C. JACKSON.

ANSWER.—Section 3 of Article 7 of constitution, page 22, gives an Annual Conference authority to make rules and regulations for the payment of the salaries of its ministers, and "to raise the amount of their salaries."

rise above party prejudice and sectional jealousy, and give their suffrages to any party which has for its object the protection of our homes by the destruction of the unholy traffic.

Resolved, (4), That we hail with delight the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, and recognize the noble work which they are doing for the cause of temperance; and,

WHEREAS, We are informed that bills are now before both Houses of Congress for the suppression of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating beverages in the District of Columbia; and whereas the liquor traffic is one of the greatest barriers to human progress and Christian civilization; therefore,

Resolved, (5), That this General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church respectfully memorializes Congress to pass a bill which shall prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating beverages in the District of Columbia, and that copies of this memorial be forwarded to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives, signed by the President and Secretary of the General Conference.

G. P. MILLER, F. M. HUSSEY,
G. B. MOON, W. M. VAN VLEET.

Report of Committee on Resolution of Thanks.

[ADOPTED.]

WHEREAS, The people of Adrian have welcomed us so cordially to their beautiful city and have received the members of this national Christian assembly as their guests, displaying so much of the genius of hospitality as to extend to us in their plentiful, happy homes, the freedom of our own; therefore,

Resolved, That we, the representatives of the Methodist Protestant Church, hereby express to the generous inhabitants of this city the profoundest gratitude of our hearts, and an obligation, the sense of which must communicate itself to all our Conferences and churches, for the kindly attentions we have received.

That we shall cherish in our distant homes, from the Hudson to the Arkansas, from the Eastern shore of Maryland to the regions of Puget Sound, from the lakes of Michigan to the cotton fields of the Gulf States, the memories of Adrian, the city of homes, the symbol of the beautiful; and we shall recall especially her people's quick and intelligent anticipations of what would please us most, and their enterprising consummation of all they proposed for our pleasure, in which connection we would particularize the delightful carriage ride given us by the citizens to points of interest in Adrian and its vicinity.

That we shall remember this city with deepest appreciation, the fraternal spirit manifested by the evangelical pastors of this city, emphasized so heartily in the inter-denominational reception accorded us, and the opening of the pulpits of the city to the ministers of this Conference.

That we shall not forget the careful solicitude and the intelligent response to all the needs of this Conference displayed by Rev. A. L. Reynolds, pastor of Plymouth Methodist Protestant Church.

8. Page 74, Section 24, after the phrase "and the causes thereof" insert the following: "and to forward the statistical report of his field to the Conference," and to change the word "duty" after the word "above" to "duties," so as to read, "Any minister who shall neglect the above duties, &c." Recommended by C. S. Bradley.

9. Page 98, Item 15, strike out the words, "chosen by the Board." and insert the words, "elected by the General Conference." Proposed by Benjamin Stout and M. L. Barnett.

10. Page 68, Sections 7 and 8, strike out the words "except in cases of transfer" in Section 7; and change Section 8, so that a transfer, though signed by the President, as required in the section, can not make a minister a member of an Annual Conference without the affirmative vote of that Conference. Proposed by D. L. Greenfield and Horace Burrough.

11. Pages 68, 69 and 73, strike out the words "preacher," "or preacher," "or preachers," "and preachers" wherever they occur in Section 8, pages 68 and 69; and in Sections 19 and 20, page 73. Proposed by L. W. Bates.

12. Page 71, Section 14, insert after the section the words, "but they shall not celebrate the marriage of divorced persons who have violated their marriage vows." Recommended by the committee.

13. *Resolved*, That the Committee on Revision be and are hereby instructed to prepare and insert a form of church deed containing the clause "to the trustees and their successors in office," and that such clause shall be a condition for receiving help from the Board of Home Extension or Home Missionary Society.

A. W. ROBERTSON,
J. F. COWAN.

The committee approves the resolution of Bros. Robertson and Cowan and recommends that the General Conference refer the paper to a special committee consisting of James P. Sayre, J. R. Caton and J. M. McHenry, with a request to prepare a form of deed, embracing the clause desired, in time for the new edition of the Discipline.

14. *Resolved*, That all contained on page 48 under XXIX, entitled "Public Worship," except the last paragraph, be removed to the part of the Discipline devoted to Ritual and be entitled "Order of Public Worship."

T. H. LEWIS.

The committee approves the above resolution, and recommends that the "Order of Public Worship" be placed at the beginning of the Ritual.

15. Page 84, Section 1, strike out the word "thirteen" and insert "nine." Proposed by F. T. Tagg.

16. Page 103, paragraph 2, add to the paragraph the following: and provide for the regular administration of the ordinances of the church in such charges as are supplied by unordained men. To enable him to carry out this provision, he may call to his assistance any pastor within the bounds of the Conference over which he presides; provided, however, that he shall not call any pastor from his field of labor more than once during a Conference year. Proposed by W. L. Wells, J. F. Cowan, S. A. Fisher.

The Annual Conference should, in the judgment of the committee, formulate plans of finance, leaving the assessment upon particular appointments to the Quarterly Conference.

In the judgment of the committee the Maryland Conference has, in the matter of the transfer of Rev. J. Clay to the unstationed list, conformed to the law as found on page 73, sections 19 and 20.

QUESTION.—*Resolved*, That the Committee on Judiciary define what relation a minister transferred to the unstationed list sustains to the Quarterly Conference and how he may become a member of said Conference.

A. L. McKEEVER,
IRA C. POST.

ANSWER.—Your committee answers: the law as found on page 73, section 20, requires that any minister transferred to the unstationed list, shall be given a certificate of his standing.

He may, upon this certificate, be received in any Quarterly Conference upon an affirmative vote of that body.

M. L. BARNETT,	J. W. HERING,
J. D. KINZER,	C. J. YINGLING,
S. W. COE,	ARTHUR W. MATTHEWS,
LYMAN E. DAVIS,	

Committee.

Report of Committee on Revision.

[ADOPTED.]

The Committee on Revision reported forty-four items in all for the action of the Conference, but only so much of the report as received favorable action is submitted by the Secretary for publication. The items adopted are as follows:

1. That on page 82, Section 2, fourth line from the top of the page, the words "the hour designated" be stricken out and the words "10 o'clock, A. M." be inserted. Recommended by E. J. Drinkhouse and J. M. P. Hickerson.
2. Page 78, Section 1, change 1 o'clock" to "2 o'clock." Recommended by the committee.
3. Page 63, Section 4, strike out the words "nor more than nine." From N. C. Conference.
4. Page 51, Section 1, add as a separate item to the chapter the following: "On an application for full membership, a vote of the church shall be taken." By C. E. Crenshaw and G. W. Hissey.
5. Article VIII. of Faith and Practice, change the word "prevent" to "enabling." By the committee.
6. Page 52, Section 2, strike out the words "upon receiving baptism." Recommended by S. J. Geddes.
7. Page 64, Item 8, insert the word "qualified" between "every" and "member" after the word "provided." Recommended by T. B. Graham and S. K. Spahr.

Methodist Protestant Church.

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Disbursements.

From April 1, 1885, to April 1, 1886.....	\$ 6,577 14
“ April 1, 1886, to July 1, 1886.....	2,128 26
“ July 1, 1886, to May 1, 1887.....	8,524 74
“ May 1, 1887, to May 1, 1888.....	12,158 32
Total.....	\$29,388 46
Balance on hand.....	2,742 09
Williams' note.....	2,000 00
	<hr/> \$34,130 55

MISSIONARIES.

Foreign.

F. C. Klein and wife, salary.....	\$1,000 00
T. H. Colhouer and wife, salary.....	1,000 00
Miss H. E. Crittendon, salary.....	500 00
L. L. Albright, salary.....	500 00
Miss Nettie Horton.....	500 00

Home.

H. L. Scarlow, Mississippi, salary.....	\$ 200 00
J. M. Frame, Ottawa, Kansas, salary.....	100 00
J. H. Luse, Wichita, Kansas, salary.....	300 00
J. T. Howell, Troy, Alabama, salary.....	100 00
A. L. Reynolds, Adrian, Michigan, salary.....	400 00
H. W. Leslie, Abigdon, Virginia, salary.....	200 00
Daniel Bagley, Seattle, Washington City, salary.....	200 00
H. C. Cushing, Atlanta, Georgia, salary.....	400 00

Of these the missions in Mississippi, Kansas, Alabama, Virginia, Washington Territory and Adrian, Michigan, are in a flourishing condition, some having become self-supporting.

The First M. P. Church, of Atlanta, Georgia, has collapsed for want of members.

MISSION SCHOOLS.

Boy's School at Yokohama, pupils.....	135
School at Fugesana.....	60
Sabbath School at Yokohama.....	200
Night School at Yokohama, (number not given).....	
Nagoya School, enrolled.....	100
Nagoya Sunday School, enrolled.....	70

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS.

Yokohama, members.....	120
Fugesana, members.....	7
Nagoya, members.....	32

Report of Committee on Missions.

[ADOPTED.]

We believe that the Board of Missions of the M. P. Church, now located at Springfield, Ohio, is a legally incorporated body under the statutes of the State of Ohio, but in view of the uncertainty surrounding this subject we respectfully recommend that the Board of Foreign Missions elected by this General Conference be and the same are hereby empowered to take such legal steps as may appear necessary, (1), to make the corporate name of said Board "The Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Protestant Church ; (2), to legalize the location of the office of the Executive Committee of said Board at Springfield, Ohio ; provided, that said Board be and the same are hereby authorized and empowered, to remove the office of said Executive Committee from Springfield, Ohio, should the safety of the property and funds of the Board make it expedient to do so ; (3), to secure to said Board all property, moneys and credits now belonging to the Church for missionary purposes, or that may hereafter come into possession of said Board for foreign missionary purposes.

MEMBERS OF BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We recommend the following as the Board of Foreign Missions : T. B. Graham, T. J. Ogburn, W. W. McCaslin, C. S. Evans, O. V. W. Chandler, C. J. Yingling, G. B. McElroy, Wm. White, L. W. Bates.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND STATISTICAL REPORT.

Your committee have had no report of the financial transactions of the Board of Missions before them. From the accompanying statements of the Board we find that the collections for mission work for 1885 were \$8,139.47 ; for 1886, \$13,790.15 ; for 1887, \$12,200.93 ; total, \$34,130.55 ; being an average contribution in the three years of nearly 25 cents per member of our denomination, and we congratulate the Church on the evidence of increasing interest in mission work. The reports that come to us show that great success attends the preaching of the gospel in Japan, and it is a time for faith and energetic work in all the churches, Sunday schools and missionary societies, that the Board may have greater means to gather the harvest. The statistical statement is herewith submitted, and recommended to be adopted :

Receipts.

From April 1, 1885, to April 1, 1886.....	\$ 8,139 47
“ April 1, 1886, to July 1, 1886.....	4,575 71
“ July 1, 1886, to May 1, 1887.....	9,214 44
“ May 1, 1887, to May 1, 1888.....	12,200 93
Total	<u>\$34,130 55</u>

mend the Society to the hearty co-operation and assistance of the Church. We recommend the following rules for governing the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and attach hereto the quadrennial report of the Society :

ARTICLE I. For the purpose of uniting the women of the Methodist Protestant Church in efforts to promote and to extend the organized work of missions, and in educating and Christianizing heathen women and girls by sending missionaries, Bible readers and teachers to foreign lands, and by establishing and controlling schools and homes, the General Conference hereby recognizes the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Protestant Church as one of the permanent agencies of the Church.

ART. II. The Society shall have power to raise and to distribute funds, as hereinafter specified ; to employ missionaries, Bible readers and teachers, controlling their operations and designating their fields of labor, and to transact any other business that the interests of the Society may demand, provided that its actions and plans be consistent and harmonious with these articles. The Society shall work in harmony with and under the advisory supervision of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Protestant Church.

ART. III. The Executive Committee of the Society shall consist of nine persons and shall be elected by the General Conference at each of its quadrennial session, and through this Committee the Society shall be amenable to the General Conference. The Committee shall have its headquarters at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and no less than four of its members shall be members of the Pittsburgh Branch of the Society. Three shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The committee shall have power to fill all vacancies occurring in the interim of the General Conference, and shall transact all business that may be committed to it by the Society.

ART. IV. The funds of the Society shall not be raised by public collections in our churches, but by securing members, life members, honorary members, and in such other ways as the Society may determine, and which shall not conflict with the regular collections of the Board of Foreign Missions ; but collections may be taken at all meetings called in the interests of the Society.

ART. V. The Society shall report through its Executive Committee, to the General Conference, the condition of its work, the number of Branches and Auxiliary Societies organized, the entire amount of money raised and appropriated for the foreign work during the preceding four years ; the number of schools in operation in them, the number of missionaries and teachers in the service of the Society and their location, and any other information of general interest and importance.

ART. VI. The Society shall have charge of all the work for women and girls within the bounds of the missions of the Methodist Protestant Church, but shall not be restricted in its work to these boundaries.

ART. VII. It shall be the duty of the Board of Foreign Missions to take cognizance of the work intrusted to the Society, and to further the same by all means that may make the missionary work of the Church at home and abroad efficient and successful, and it shall be the duty of the Society to co-operate heartily with the Board of Missions.

BUILDINGS.

Boy's School, value.....	\$10,000 00
Fugesana School, value not given, but is furnished by the natives.....	
Nagoya Purchase.....	900 00
Nagoya Purchase, additional.....	600 00
Yokohama, Chapel in course of erection.....	

Your Committee has had suggestions from the Board of Foreign Missions and also from the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, regarding the relations of the two agencies of the Church, and recommend that the following be added to the Constitution of the Board of Foreign Missions, page 87 :

SEC. 8. In every place where a mission is, or may be, established, there shall be a school for boys and young men under the supervision and control of the Board of Foreign Missions. Also, if practicable, a school for girls and women, under the supervision and control of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. Also, as soon as practicable, a church or chapel shall be built and a pastor appointed.

The teachers and pupils of both schools shall be required to attend public worship, prayer service and Sabbath school, at this church or chapel.

The boy's school shall be under the control and management of the Principal appointed to that school by the Board of Missions. The girl's school shall be under the management and control of the Principal appointed to that school by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. The church and pastoral work shall be under the supervision and control of the pastor, and he shall have advisory supervision over the management of both schools.

In case of serious misconduct in either of the schools, on the part of the pupils, that may demand extreme penalties, such as suspension or expulsion, a council composed of the Pastor and the Faculty of that school shall take the matter under consideration, and the decision of the majority of the council shall be final.

The pastor shall engage in such religious and evangelistic work as will best promote the glory of God and the salvation of souls, and engage in such teaching and other duties as time will allow, and as seem necessary for the best interests of the work.

The Board of Foreign Missions shall be alone responsible for the salaries and expenses of the boys' school, and the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society shall be alone responsible for the salaries and expenses of the girls' school.

The Board of Missions shall have the right to raise money by assessments and collections in the churches, by Children's Day services in the Sunday schools, and by life membership, donations and legacies.

WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

We find that the work being carried on by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society is in a prosperous condition, and gives promise of great good and of being a powerful auxiliary to the mission work of our Church in Japan, and we com-

that four of the girls who have been taught and nurtured here, have been assisting our missionaries in their labors during the last year, and ten others with one of the native teachers have been converted to God, baptized and taken into the church by the pastor of the mission, Rev. T. H. Colhouer. The scholars all attend the Sunday school of our mission, and many encouraging reports come to us of the good being done through this instrumentality. As a very high rent is being paid for our school building, the Society has decided to erect buildings capable of accommodating the school; and for this purpose a lot has been purchased on the Bluff, in the Foreign Reservation, a short distance from the building owned by the Church Mission Board. The present unhealthy location and unsuitable buildings are a great detriment to our prosperity, and although the other mission schools are crowded to overflowing, yet ours does not increase. We therefore feel the great necessity for the step we have taken. About \$7,500 will be required for this purpose, very nearly \$4,000 of which is already in our Brick fund. At a recent meeting of the Society measures were adopted for raising the balance needed. At the time of our last report to you in 1884, we had engaged two ladies for our foreign work, who sailed for Yokohama in the following October. Last year we sent out two others to take the places of these, one having resigned, the other having returned on account of ill health. We have in our employ at present three missionaries, Miss Whetstone, Miss Bonnett and Miss Kimball, the last lady having been employed in Yokohama; also, there are two native teachers, besides four of our pupils assisting.

In August, 1887, a call came from Rev. F. C. Klein for a Girl's school at Nagoya, where Mrs. Klein had already a class of ten girls. The Executive Committee of the Society directed Miss Whetstone to proceed at once to Nagoya and to organize a school. This she did opening her school about December 1, 1887. But the great prejudice existing in the minds of the natives against the Bible seems to be a great hinderance to the prosperity of the school, and its progress has been exceedingly slow, also the unreliability of the Japanese who first encouraged the mission, and through whom our missionaries are permitted to remain, has been a source of much trouble and an obstacle to our success.

As Nagoya is not an open treaty port, and as property can not be held by foreigners, the Society has instructed our missionaries to rent such buildings as are needed for our work, leaving the purchase of real estate for a more auspicious future. At Kanazawa, a few miles distant from Yokohama where Mr. Colhouer has opened a Sunday school, our teachers and older pupils give their aid on the Sabbath, and the Society is endeavoring to be prepared to follow the Church Board into any new fields it may enter, and supplement the work of the ministers by every means in its power. In reference to the rules adopted by the General Conference of 1884 for the governing of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, your committee beg leave to report that they have endeavored to comply with them as far as lay in their power, but finding that in some points they were not practicable, the Society at its last annual meeting embodied the sentiments of its members in the eight rules which accompany this report, and which they respectfully pray you to give a careful consideration,

ART. VIII. It shall be the duty of all pastors to encourage and to assist in the organization of branch and auxiliary societies.

ART. IX. The necessary traveling expenses of the members of the Executive Committee shall be paid by the branches to which they respectfully belong.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We nominate and recommend the election of the following named ladies to be members of the Executive Committee: Mrs. W. K. Gillespie, Mrs. M. A. Miller, Mrs. J. D. Anderson, Mrs. J. E. Palmer, Mrs. F. A. Brown, Mrs. A. R. O'Brien, Mrs. I. D. Coxson, Mrs. S. K. Spahr, Mrs. M. J. Morgan.

CHARTER.

We recommend that the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society secure such amendment to their charter as will place them under the control of the General Conference.

QUADRENNIAL REPORT OF WOMAN'S FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

To the President and Members of the General Conference:

Dear Fathers and Brethren—The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society ever since its origin nine years ago has faithfully endeavored to carry out the purpose of its organization—the Christianizing of heathen women and children by means of secular schools in which religious instruction is prominent, by Sabbath schools, by Bible readers and evangelists.

We appear before you for the second time to present our quadrennial report:

In 1880, when but one year old, we presented our request for official recognition by this body, for the purpose of carrying on our specific work in connection with the Church's Foreign Mission Board. This purpose has been steadily adhered to, and the Society has endeavored to follow the Church Board into all the fields it has entered.

Depending on voluntary service and restricted in its source of supplies, it has not made the progress that the auspicious openings abroad demand, but it is encouraged by the knowledge that at home the interest in the work of foreign missions is broadening and deepening, and that the women of the Church are engaging more heartily in the work than ever before—that is, forming a bond of union among them that is strengthening as the years pass onward, and is doing much to unite the whole Church in the common purpose of doing its part in bringing the world back to God.

We have organized in 17 Conferences, and number at the present time 300 Auxiliary Societies, 40 Mission Bands, and a membership of about 3,000.

Our receipts for the past quadrennium from all sources amounts to \$15,222.65; the year just closed shows receipts above any previous year. The organ of the Society, *Woman's Missionary Record*, is closing its third year with a circulation of 1,700 subscribers, and is able to meet all its expenses, most of the labor given to it being voluntary. The first work adopted by the Society exclusively its own, was the Girl's school in Yokohama, the support of which it assumed in 1884. The school now numbers about 60 pupils. Its most impressive record is

ART. IV. The Board shall meet annually, and the Executive Committee quarterly. The Board shall make complete detailed reports of its work and its finances, and submit to each General Conference the record and account books for audit.

ART. V. The Board shall estimate at each annual meeting the amount of money required to carry on its work the following year, and assess each Annual Conference, notice of which assessment shall be sent to the President of each Annual Conference, who shall present the same to the next session of his Conference and have the same apportioned to the several stations, circuits and missions, and the money when collected shall be forwarded at once to the Treasurer of the Board.

ART. VI. It shall be the duty of pastors to preach at least one sermon each Conference year on the subject of Home Missions at each appointment on his respective charges, secure contributions for this work and forward the same at once to the Treasurer of the Board.

We recommend the following for members of the Board of Home Missions :

Ministers, S. A. Fisher, W. M. Strayer, M. L. Barnett, S. K. Spahr ; *Laymen*, J. H. Hawkins, F. M. Durbin, F. H. Peirpoint.

NOTE.—The Board of Foreign Missions shall, as soon as the Board of Home Missions is chartered and organized, turn over to said Board all money due the Home Mission department, together with a full account of the location, condition, requirements, &c., of the Home Mission work.

Report of Committee on Boundaries.

[ADOPTED.]

We, your Committee on Boundaries, present the following report for your consideration :

1. Arkansas District embraces all of the State of Arkansas, (except North Arkansas and the Fort Smith District), and wards three and four of Clairborne parish, the parish of Webster, and Beech Grove and Lockhart churches in Union parish, in the State of Louisiana.

2. Central Texas district shall be bounded as follows : On the north by the Red river, east by the Trinity river to Dallas ; thence by the Houston and Central Texas Railroad to Red river ; on the west by the Brazos river so as to embrace the city of Galveston.

3. Deep River District to be stricken from the roll of Conference Districts.

4. Kansas District embraces the State of Kansas and what is known as "No Man's Land," in the Indian Territory.

5. The Maryland District embraces the State of Maryland, (except Garrett county, and that portion of the State of Virginia lying east of the Allegheny mountains and north of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad), also the cities of Norfolk and Lynchburg, and the counties of Campbell, Surry, Westmoreland, Northumberland and Amelia ; the State of Delaware ; the District of Columbia, and all that part of Pennsylvania west of the Susquehanna river not included in

asking that such a relation may exist between the Society and your Foreign Mission Board as will best bring about the great purpose for which these organizations exist.

Respectfully submitted by the committee,

MRS. M. A. MILLER, *Corresponding Secretary.*

Report of Committee on Church Extension.

[ADOPTED.]

Your special committee, to whom was referred the question of the propriety of organizing a Church Extension Society, begs leave to report that they recognize the importance of the establishment of a more effective agency for the building up of our Church in the United States and Territories. They have considered the question of name, and are of the opinion that the name "Home Extension" would lead to confusion on account of there being in many Conferences Home Extension organizations, and therefore propose the name "Board of Home Missions."

We recommend the organization of a Board of Home Missions upon the following plan :

ARTICLE I. The General Conference shall at each quadrennial session elect a Board of Home Missions, to consist of seven (7) members—four ministers and three laymen—who shall hold their office for the term of four years, or until their successors shall be elected.

This Board shall be located at Grafton, W. Va., and shall at the earliest practicable date secure their incorporation under the name and title of "The Board of Home Missions of the Methodist Protestant Church."

ART. II. The General Conference shall in like manner elect a Corresponding Secretary, who shall be a member of the Board, ex-officio, whose duty it shall be to act under the direction of the Board, conduct the correspondence, visit the annual Conferences, churches and mission fields, report quarterly regarding the work, and annually, or oftener if required, make a complete detailed report of all matters connected with the work, and perform such other duties as pertain to his office.

ART. III. The Board shall have general supervision over and direction of all mission work in the United States and Territories, except those missions under the control of and sustained by the annual Conferences. It shall have authority to fix salaries, to arrange for the collection of funds to carry on the work, to employ and remove missionaries, to establish missions, to loan money upon satisfactory security for building purposes, either with or without interest, and upon such terms and conditions as the Board may deem best, and shall have general authority to do all things necessary for the promotion of the work.

The Board shall meet as soon as practicable after the adjournment of the General Conference, and organize by electing a President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of three. The Board shall require the Treasurer to give bonds to secure fully all money coming into his hands.

and Nashville Railroad to Louisville, Ky., and thence with the Ohio river to its confluence with the Mississippi river ; with said river to Memphis ; thence with the State line below Memphis with the Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia State lines to the southeast corner of Bradley county, Tenn. ; thence with said line to Meigs county ; thence with the east boundary of said county to Roan county, thence with the east boundary of Roan county to the north boundary of said county ; thence to the Cumberland mountains, so as to include all west of this line ; thence to the beginning.

17. The West Tennessee District, being united with the Tennessee District, is discontinued.

18. We recommend that the next annual Conference of the consolidated Arkansas Conference be held at the time and place already selected for holding the West Arkansas Conference.

19. All Conference Districts not mentioned heretofore in this report shall remain as described in the book of Discipline of 1884.

Report of Committee on Education.

[ADOPTED.]

Your Committee on Education begs leave to submit the following report:

Your committee finds that there are two institutions of learning in the possession and under the control or special patronage of the Methodist Protestant Church; viz., Adrian College, located at Adrian, Michigan; and Western Maryland College at Westminster, Maryland.

From the official reports of Presidents Stephens and Lewis made to this Conference and referred to your committee, and also from such other information as has come into the possession of your committee, we find and are pleased to report that both our colleges, with the means and facilities at their command, have, during the last quadrennium, made most satisfactory progress, and accomplished a work which commends them to the just appreciation and the continued and increased patronage of the church; and further, that the demonstrated scholarly attainments, faithfulness and zeal of the respective faculties of the institutions of learning merit both the respect and confidence of the church. In order to present a connected view of both the character and needs of our educational work, your committee desires to submit for your consideration these several following items and recommendations:

1. ADRIAN COLLEGE. From the published calendar of Adrian College, your committee finds that this institution comprises, under the management of the Board of Trustees elected by this General Conference, six separate schools all under the instruction of the same faculty, and controlled by one corporate body. The aims of the college, the character of its work, the improvements to its property during the last quadrennium, its financial condition and pressing needs are clearly set forth in the following digest of the official report made by President Stephens in behalf of its Board of Trustees to this body:

the Pittsburgh District, and that part of the State of Pennsylvania east of the Susquehanna river (except Hummelstown mission) not included in the Pennsylvania District ; also, Morgan, Jefferson and Berkeley counties in West Virginia. It shall also embrace Charleston, in South Carolina, and Newark, N. J., and Chesterfield, until they shall otherwise elect.

6. Mississippi District embraces that part of the State of Mississippi lying south of a line beginning at the northeast corner of Noxubbee county, thence west to the Mississippi river at Greenville.

7. New York District embraces western Vermont, Connecticut, and that part of New York lying east of a line forming the boundary between the States of New York and New Jersey, terminating at the Delaware river ; thence up said river to the northwest corner of Sullivan county ; thence north to the northeast corner of Hamilton county ; thence east to Lake Champlain ; thence down the lake to the Canada line. The charges now occupied in Pennsylvania shall remain in New York District till they otherwise elect.

8. North Arkansas District, being now included in the Arkansas District, is stricken from the list.

9. North Carolina District embraces all of the State of North Carolina and Spring Church station, in Virginia.

10. Virginia District embraces all of the State of Virginia (except Spring Church station) not included in Maryland District, and that portion of the State of Tennessee east of the Tennessee District ; also, the counties of Letcher, Pike, Floyd, McGoffin, Wolfe, Breathall, Hously and Josh Bell, in the State of Kentucky.

11. West Virginia District is bounded as follows : Beginning at Moundsville on the Ohio river ; thence down said river to the Kentucky line ; thence east with the West Virginia line to the top of the Allegheny mountains ; thence northward with the West Virginia line to the Morgan county line ; thence with said line to the Maryland line ; thence west with the State line to Garrett county, Md. ; thence with the said line to the Pennsylvania line ; thence west to the southern boundary of Brooke county, W. Va., so as to embrace Mt. Morris, Taylorstown and Avery circuits, in Pennsylvania ; thence with said line to the Ohio river ; thence with said river to the place of beginning, except Fairmont station.

12. Western Arkansas District, being included in the Arkansas District, is stricken from the roll.

13. Louisiana District shall embrace all of the State of Louisiana, except that which is included in the Arkansas District.

14. Red River District, being included in the Arkansas District, is stricken from the roll.

15. The resolution presented to the committee recommending that the churches of colored Methodist Protestants in South Carolina be authorized to organize a separate Conference, if they so elect, is by the committee approved, and we recommend its adoption.

16. The Tennessee District is bounded as follows : Beginning at the southeast corner of Allen county, Ky., running to Glasgow ; thence with the Louisville

particularly emphasized: College Day service will be useful not only in its financial results, but especially in its educational influence. We offer three free scholarships to be given to the three Sunday-schools in each Conference that raise the largest amount to the member, for the Sunday-school Chair."

2. WESTERN MARYLAND COLLEGE. Western Maryland College, under the management of a Board of Trustees, incorporated by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland, but under the special patronage of the Methodist Protestant Church, also comprises ten departments of instruction under the same faculty and controlled by one corporate body. The description and value of its property, the distinctive character and aims of its work, the progress during the last quadrennium, its financial condition, &c., are fully set forth in the official report of President Lewis, made to this body, which we incorporate, and is as follows:

Dear Brethren: I have the honor to present the sixth quadrennial report of Western Maryland College to this body.

This institution is just completing the twenty-first year of its continuously successful operation, and its history of struggles and success fairly entitle it to an accredited place in the sympathy, pride and earnest co-operation of every lover of the church. When a few men of faith and devotion began at Westminster, Md., in 1866 and 1867, the work of founding a college for the Methodist Protestant Church there was not an educational institution under denominational control within the whole church. A large portion of the church had been devastated by war and demoralized by divisions and betrayals. The history of past efforts in founding colleges and academies had been a history of humiliating defeats, and it was clearly seen that for many years at least the burden of founding and sustaining this institution must fall mainly upon one Annual Conference. Yet, without any endowment, without co-operation beyond a small circle, without enthusiasm or even faith among the members of the church, the work was begun, and under God's blessing the persistent, sacrificing labors of his servants have resulted in the acquisition of a splendid property and a noble institution of learning to the Methodist Protestant Church.

The college has come to man's estate, is twenty-one years old, and with gratitude the record is made that it is recognized at home as one of the best equipped colleges in the State. It has been chosen by the State Legislature, after rigid inspection, as the educator of twenty-six students, educated by the State for public school teachers. It has an alumni of more than two hundred. It has on the rolls of the present year twelve resident teachers and two stated lecturers, and 165 students, exclusive of eighteen theological students, who board in the college but are entered at the seminary. Since the last General Conference Rev. J. T. Ward, President of the college since the beginning, has been released, at his own request, to take the Presidency of the Westminster Theological Seminary. The new administration has made a few changes in the faculty, some additions, and has proceeded along the same lines of conservative method chosen by the college at the beginning. However, it has been our endeavor to lose no opportunity for improving our appliances or widening our scope, and something substantial has been accomplished in this direction.

"The following are some of the more important facts relative to the work of Adrian College and its present condition:

"We have added to the invested endowment of the college, up to the end of the year 1887, the following amounts:

From Sunday-school Chair	\$ 827 54
" Lake Estate.....	2,506 68
" Detroit Lots.....	1,650 00
" Colvin Estate.....	449 35
" Sill Estate.....	14 10
" Reeves Estate.....	1,907 18
" Peoples' Chair, notes.....	665 00
" Memorial Chair, notes.....	32 00
" Ladies' Chair, notes.....	40 85
" General Endowment, notes.....	456 00
	<hr/>
	\$8,548 70

"From the Wm. Morrison Estate, unpaid, \$5,000.00.

"In October, 1886, a storm unroofed our college chapel and did other damage. We have repaired the damages, put an iron roof on the chapel, frescoed and renovated it at an expense of over \$1,000, all of which money has been raised and paid.

"We have put in a system of hot water heating in South Hall and chapel, which ordinarily would cost from \$2,500 to \$3,000, but which has cost us about \$1,500.

"Since we entered upon our new policy, in 1880, of keeping expenses within the income, we have made the following progress:

"Our invested endowment was then \$34,500. Now it is \$65,441.58. In addition to this, the college receives interest on several thousand more, which makes the invested funds yielding interest to the support of the college over double what it was eight years ago. Below is a statement of the financial condition of the college:

Invested Funds.....	\$ 65,441 58
Endowment Notes, (good).....	25,000 00
Mortuary Notes.....	7,700 00
College Grounds, Buildings, &c.....	113,000 00
Movable Property, Pianos, &c.....	5,000 00
Museum.....	15,000 00
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$231,141 58

"Our debt eight years ago was \$31,467.24. Now it is \$21,765.00. We would ask the support of the Conference, especially in three directions:

"1. Co-operation in securing students, especially the sons and daughters of our own people.

"2. Support in our efforts to improve the finances of the college.

"3. A more general observance of College Day. This we would desire to have

I do not believe the day has come or will come when an institution of the church must prove itself incapable or bankrupt before its appeal for co-operation can make itself heard. To strengthen the things that remain—remain after the stress and storm of conflict and immaturity, must surely be good policy. We have done much without endowment, but we have done it in our period of childhood. Now we have attained our majority. The resources and appliances sufficient for us heretofore, will soon become painfully inefficient. We can not provide for our rapidly increasing patronage—increasing in the last two years fifty per cent.—we can not extend the scope and efficiency of enlarging organization—in a word, we can not do a man's work without a man's wages, and those wages we confidently believe the church is willing to give, and to this Conference we submit our appeal.

RECOMMENDATIONS. In view of the fact that the income from the present invested endowment fund of Adrian College, supplemented by the income from tuition and all other sources, is wholly inadequate to meet the necessary expense of successfully carrying on and enlarging its work and usefulness, and because Western Maryland College has no permanent endowment fund at all, but is wholly dependent upon the patronage of students for its support, your committee would suggest that this Conference recommend to the Board of Trustees of these colleges, respectively, that they at the earliest practicable time devise such plans and adopt such measure to carry them into effect as in their judgment will most speedily secure for Western Maryland College a permanent endowment fund, and increase the present endowment fund of Adrian College to a sum adequate to successfully carry on their work; and believing that this end can be most successfully accomplished by the endowment of separate chairs rather than by establishing or increasing a general endowment fund, your committee recommend that the Board of Trustees of these colleges be instructed to authorize their agents to direct their efforts to the successive endowments of separate chairs rather than to the creating and increasing of a general endowment fund.

INSTITUTION OF LEARNING IN THE WEST. We recommend in view of the establishment of an institution of learning in the West, in case an opportunity should present itself, the appointment of a Commission or Board of twenty persons who shall be empowered to receive propositions to this end, and to take such steps toward the organization of such an enterprise, between now and the next General Conference, as they may deem advisable.* We recommend the following persons for this Commission, the remaining three to be selected by the Commission themselves: F. H. Peirpont, W. P. Herbert, Samuel Fordyce, Ira C. Post, L. W. Bates, J. H. Luse, Wm. J. C. Dulany, J. D. Baker, M. L. Jennings, T. H. Lewis, G. C. Smith, F. H. Collier, G. B. McElroy, Mark B. Taylor, F. J. Heinz, D. S. Stephens, J. F. Cowan.

TRUSTEES OF ADRIAN COLLEGE. We recommend the following named persons as suitable to act on the Board of Trustees of Adrian College for term of eight years. Joseph J. Amos, Norman Geddes, Joel S. Thrap, J. B. Walker, W. K. Gillespie, T. B. Graham, Nathan R. Swift, Theodore Cocheu, William Mearns, George S. Wood and John Scott.

The development has been so far mainly in the departments of the Natural Sciences, Music, Art, the Modern Languages and Physical Culture, leaving the departments of Philosophy, English, Mathematics and Ancient Languages in the advanced stage already reached. The college confers but one academic degree—A. B.—and this is reached by a course of study embracing the principal departments or schools of the college; but it also provides graded and thorough courses in Music, Art, Pedagogy and Business. In respect of discipline the college has always maintained the status of *locus parentis*, and has therefore found it necessary to control the whole domestic as well as educational economy, providing both rooms and board of a uniform character and at a uniform rate. The result has been entirely satisfactory.

The patronage has always been too much confined to Maryland, and contiguous Conferences, relieved of the burden of establishing the college, have not been sufficiently urged to do their part in sustaining it. Unless Maryland has done the church a wrong in founding a college and presenting it, unencumbered and inalienable to the church, it would seem that the Conferences so benefited would gladly avail themselves of the opportunity to educate their children under the moral and religious influences of their own denomination. I have no doubt there are enough children of Methodist Protestant parents now in other schools to fill both our colleges and make a third in the distant west an immediate necessity.

The buildings of the college erected at five different times, have been massed to suit the requirements of our method into two large structures; one sixty-two feet front, the other one hundred and sixty-three feet front, the main part of both being five stories high.

These buildings are all of brick, heated by steam and furnished throughout with the conveniences of modern housekeeping. It is difficult to give a proper estimate of the value of the property or even to state its cost, because of the gradual method of acquiring it; but certainly a low estimate would be \$60,000. The property is held in fee simple by the Trustees, but an Endowment Society of the church holds a mortgage upon it covering all the moneys contributed by the church to the college, which secures the property to the church forever. The financial operations of the last two years have been very gratifying, even beyond our expectation, but they may be very briefly epitomized here.

The current income from students for the two years has been about \$50,000.

This income has been used first to pay all current expenses; then \$1,200 was paid to reduce the debt, and the remaining surplus, amounting to nearly \$16,000, has been spent on buildings, improvements, and in supplying educational apparatus. The debt now amounts to \$8,000. The matter of a surplus is something new in the history of our college and, perhaps, of all colleges, and it will be pardonable in us to refer to it here as evincing an earnest to use with all diligence and economy the means within our reach. But a suspicious prudence would dictate to us that the very statements may be used to demonstrate that there can be no necessity to help an institution so well able to take care of itself. Nevertheless, I have determined to keep nothing back for such unworthy reasons as these.

organize by the election of a President, Secretary and Treasurer, and to meet thereafter at least once a quarter, to hear the reports of the Corresponding Secretary and officers of the Board, and to transact all necessary business.

3. To determine the amount of salary to be paid the Corresponding Secretary.

4. To suspend or remove him from office for just cause, and if from any cause the office becomes vacant, to fill it until the succeeding General Conference.

5. To enact all necessary By-Laws in accordance with this Constitution, defining the duties of each officer of the Board and of the beneficiaries under its care.

6. To make full and complete reports to each General Conference of the assets and liabilities of the Board, the number of students assisted, from what conferences, and the amount rendered each student.

7. To sacredly hold the funds committed to its care for the above purpose, for which the Board is created. There shall be two departments as follows :

(a.) The permanent fund, which shall comprise all moneys placed in the hands of the Board for permanent investment, shall be invested with approved security, and only the interest accruing therefrom shall be used for the purposes of the Board.

(b.) The fund for distribution shall comprise all moneys not intended for permanent investment, and shall be subject to the order of the Board at all times, for the object specified in Article II. of this Constitution.

8. To make appropriations, as far as possible, to such persons as come to it properly recommended, that is to say, recommended by the Quarterly Conference to the Annual Conference in whose bounds the applicant resides, and by the Annual Conference to the Examining Committee provided for in Article I., and by the Examining Committee to the Board.

ART. V. All assistance rendered beneficiaries by the Board shall be in the form of a loan without interest, to be returned to the Board at the rate of ten per cent. of the gross amount of salary received annually, after they shall have entered the ministry.

In case any person thus aided fails within one year after leaving college or seminary, to enter and continue in the ministry of the Methodist Protestant Church, unless providentially hindered, the entire amount of money loaned him by the Board shall then become due, with interest, from the time it was received.

ART. VI. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the general correspondence of the Board, and shall devote himself faithfully to promote the educational interests under its care.

He shall present the claims of the cause as extensively as possible to the entire denomination by correspondence and visitation. He shall visit each of the colleges where students are being aided by the Board, at least once a year, and take a proper interest in their education and general welfare. He shall report quarterly to the Board the result of his work, and shall be amenable to the Board for the performance of the duties herein set forth.

YADKIN COLLEGE AND GITTINGS' SEMINARY. Yadkin College, established by the North Carolina Conference, and Gittings' Seminary, under the control of the North Illinois Conference, are recognized as Conference educational enterprises, and should receive favorable mention by this General Conference.

Report of Committee on Ministerial Education.

[ADOPTED.]

Your committee respectfully submit the following report :

1. We have carefully examined the reports of the present Board, and its various officers, and commend their efficient services to the notice of this General Conference, and recommend that the reports of the President of the Board, the financial statement of the Treasurer, and the report of Westminster Theological Seminary, which reports are herewith submitted, be made a part of the record and minutes of this General Conference.

2. We recommend, that in the case of beneficiaries who failed to attend to the payment of their notes in a manner satisfactory to the Board, complaints be made to the conference in which the beneficiary is employed, and that the persistent indifference to these obligations shall be sufficient cause for being deprived of work. "That the Board also notify those ecclesiastical bodies to which those beneficiaries who have left our church are responsible, of their neglect to refund the money loaned them," and that in all cases the Board shall annually report to each Annual Conference the financial statement of all beneficiaries within its boundaries.

3. We heartily endorse and commend the plans and efforts of J. T. Ward, D. D., President, to enlarge the buildings and add to the endowment of Westminster Theological Seminary.

We recommend, that the Constitution of the Board of Ministerial Education be amended to read as follows :

ARTICLE I. The General Conference shall elect by ballot, at each of its quadrennial sessions, a Board of Ministerial Education, consisting of four members and a Corresponding Secretary, who shall be a member *ex-officio* of the Board, and all of whom shall be members in good standing in the Methodist Protestant Church in the vicinity of the location of the Board. The General Conference shall also elect, at the same time, an Examining Committee of three ministers and two laymen from the vicinity of each of the official colleges of the church.

ART. II. The object of the Board shall be to assist the worthy young men of the Methodist Protestant Church in preparing for the work of the ministry.

ART. III. The Board shall be known and styled, The Board of Ministerial Education of the Methodist Protestant Church.

ART. IV. The Board shall be invested with the following powers :

1. To obtain a charter, wherever it may be located, for the purpose hereinafter stated.

2. To meet within twenty days after the rise of the General Conference, and

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spectfully submit to you this report concerning the institution over which I have had the honor of presiding during the last two years, succeeding Rev. Thomas H. Lewis, A.M., D.D., who was President at the time of the session of the General Conference which met in the city of Baltimore, Md., in May, 1884, and laid before that Conference the facts of the origin and a full account of the work of the seminary up to that time.

It is only necessary, therefore, that the present report treat of the last four years ; and inasmuch as the annual reports of the Board of Governors to the Maryland Annual Conference embrace all that I could present of information concerning the seminary and its work in each year, I devote this report simply to a summing up of what is contained in them.

During the four years the number of students entered upon the roll of the seminary is thirty-seven, making the whole number from the time of the organization of the institution to the present time sixty-four. Of the whole number, sixteen have graduated, five of them with the degree of B.D., the others with testimonials of graduation ; in 1884, one ; in 1885, six ; in 1886, four ; in 1887, three ; in 1888 (term just closed), two.

Of the students already enrolled who are expected to return to the seminary next fall, five will probably graduate in 1889. Besides the graduates, twenty-four other students, who took a partial course and received certificates for the work done, have gone forth into the active ministry, and these as well as the graduates have given evidence of the benefit received from the Seminary, and become useful to the church and community, leading many souls to the Saviour.

During the seminary year just closed, every room in the building was occupied, and the prospect is that there will be more students applying for admission next year than can be accommodated, unless additional rooms be provided, in view of which the Board of Governors have authorized the President of the Seminary to make an appeal to the friends of the institution for funds to enable us to enlarge the building as need may be, and also to ask friends who may be willing to contribute toward a fund for endowing the institution, and the President is sanguine in his hopes of success in the enterprise.

In reference to the finances of the institution, the reports to which I have referred will show that there has been considerable interest, although there is need of more.

The building, which is a very fine one for its purposes, convenient in arrangement and substantial in structure, the estimated value of which is five thousand dollars, has been fully paid for, and the current expenses of the institution have been nearly all met by the current income, mainly owing to the noble devotion of the Maryland Annual Conference to the seminary.

While it is true that a majority of the students of the seminary have thus far been from the Maryland Conference territory, the institution is designed for the general church, and it is very desirable that other Conferences (especially those of the East and South) should take active part in sustaining and sending students to it, and it is with great pleasure that I state the fact that there has been during the last four years a growing interest in the seminary on the part of several of the Conferences besides Maryland.

ART. VII. The Examining Committee shall be charged with the duty of examining candidates for the ministry who wish to apply to the Board for aid, and of exercising supervisory control over such students as receive aid. They shall meet within twenty days from the rise of conference and elect a Chairman and Secretary. They shall prepare a form for examining candidates, but shall also satisfy themselves, by any question outside of this, of the fitness of the candidate, and shall not recommend any person until he has appeared before them, and received the votes of a majority of the committee. They shall send to the Board a list of those recommended in the order of preference, and shall keep the Board informed as to the standing and progress of all students aided on their recommendation.

ART. VIII. No beneficiary shall receive more than one hundred and twenty-five dollars in any one year, nor more than a total sum of five hundred dollars.

4. We recommend as members of the Board of Ministerial Education, as per Article I. of the forgoing Constitution, Brothers G. G. Westfall, J. H. Claney, Wm. P. Herbert and Wm. Hastings.

5. And as members of the Examining Committee at Adrian, Brothers G. B. McElroy, C. E. Wilbur, A. L. Reynolds, W. H. Howard and W. Ferguson.

6. For Westminster, Brothers J. T. Ward, J. T. Murray, T. H. Lewis, J. W. Hering and Charles Billingslea.

7. For the five members of the Board of Governors of Westminster Theological Seminary, to be elected by this General Conference, we recommend Brothers L. D. Stultz, Charles Crenshaw, J. C. Roberts, Benjamin Stout and J. W. Hull.

8. By reason of an alleged irregularity in the employment of an agent by the Board of Ministerial Education in connection with Adrian College, after a resolution to authorize such action by the Board had been rejected by the last General Conference, it is the recommendation of this committee, that in the future, a refusal by the General Conference to pass an enabling act shall be construed to be a prohibition.

9. We recommend that the Board of Ministerial Education be authorized to employ the Corresponding Secretary in connection with the two colleges, if satisfactory arrangements can be made so to do.

10. And that the Board be instructed to have the articles of incorporation so amended as to conform to this amended Constitution, if upon examination of the charter any change may be necessary.

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F. M. TOTTEN,

J. M. MCHENRY, *Secretary*,

D. S. STEPHENS, *Chairman*,

OLIVER LOWTHER,

G. W. HISSEY,

J. T. MURRAY,

HORACE BURROUGH,

H. J. HEINZ.

WESTMINSTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

Honored and Beloved Brethren: By direction of the Board of Governors of the Westminster Theological Seminary of the Methodist Protestant Church, I re-

spectfully submit to you this report concerning the institution over which I have had the honor of presiding during the last two years, succeeding Rev. Thomas H. Lewis, A.M., D.D., who was President at the time of the session of the General Conference which met in the city of Baltimore, Md., in May, 1884, and laid before that Conference the facts of the origin and a full account of the work of the seminary up to that time.

It is only necessary, therefore, that the present report treat of the last four years ; and inasmuch as the annual reports of the Board of Governors to the Maryland Annual Conference embrace all that I could present of information concerning the seminary and its work in each year, I devote this report simply to a summing up of what is contained in them.

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WESTMINSTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

Honored and Beloved Brethren: By direction of the Board of Governors of the Westminster Theological Seminary of the Methodist Protestant Church, I re-

truly and increasingly useful to the church and her interests, to hear that he has leaped the denominational fence. If these departures were occasioned by any essential or honest change in convictions as to either doctrine or polity, they, while regretted, might be borne without awakening any unpleasant feelings. But in ninety-nine per cent. of all such cases the ruling motive has been a hundred dollars or so increase of salary.

I also heartily indorse the recommendation with which the report of the committee is closed, and I would ask you as a General Conference to give it, through the committee to whom these papers may be referred, your earnest attention. Not a little, perhaps, of the difficulty to which reference is made might be avoided by a more careful and judicious selection of material at the beginning. To prevent is often much easier and pleasanter than it is to cure.

Permit me to call your attention to the fact that during the period to the close of which we have now come as a Board and committee, death has invaded our little company and one of our number has been called from his labor below to his rest and reward above. I refer to the decease of J. J. Gillespie, of Pittsburgh, Pa. Brother Gillespie was always, both in thought and deed, a warm friend of the church and of all her general interests. His loss was keenly felt by the Board and its Executive Committee, of which he was a member, for in his departure we lost an efficient worker, a judicious counselor, a true and constant colleague. I would ask, as a tribute due to his worth and work, that a suitable notice be taken of his decease.

Respectfully submitted,

G. B. McELROY,

President of the Board of Ministerial Education, Methodist Protestant Church.

Thus, in as few words as I could, I have endeavored to comply with the directions of the Board of Governors, and trusting that the report will be satisfactory to the General Conference, I respectfully submit it for their consideration, taking the liberty of expressing my hope that such action as may be deemed proper for the encouragement or improvement of our institution will be taken by the Conference.

The *Conferences represented* by students attending the Seminary are *Maryland, West Virginia, North Carolina, New Jersey, Virginia, Alabama and Georgia.*

Copies of the "Appeal" and plan for raising funds for seminary, building and endowment will be sent to each member of the General Conference probably during the session.

Dearly beloved brethren, may the blessing and guidance of the great Head of the church be upon and with you in all your deliberations upon every interest of our Zion is the sincere and fervent prayer of your affectionate brother in Christ and fellow-laborer in the gospel,

J. T. WARD,

President of the Westminster Theological Seminary of the Methodist Protestant Church.

Report of the President of the Board of Ministerial Education.

Adrian, Mich., May 11, 1888.

Dear Brethren: In behalf, and as President of the Board of Ministerial Education of the Methodist Protestant Church, I would respectfully beg leave to submit for your consideration and approval the reports of the Executive Committee and Treasurer of the Board, showing respectively the work done and the moneys received and disbursed under the direction and by the authority of the Board during the quadrennium that will close during your present session.

From the report of the Treasurer, you will see that during these four years there has come into the treasury from all sources the sum of nine thousand eight hundred sixty-three dollars and twenty-four cents (\$9,863.24). Of this amount more than one-third has come from interest and return payments of beneficiaries. The balance on hand at the beginning of the period was one thousand four hundred ninety-six dollars and seventy-one cents (\$1,496.71).

The amount disbursed during the four years for all purposes was ten thousand nine hundred six dollars and sixty-three cents (\$10,906.63), leaving a balance in favor of the Board of four hundred fifty-three dollars and thirty-two cents (\$453.32). The amount of the Permanent Fund is four thousand eight hundred thirteen dollars and sixty cents (\$4,813.60). This is well invested and produces a good income.

I would most earnestly emphasize the suggestion of the Board, made by the Executive Committee, that more strenuous efforts should be used to collect the amounts due from those "who by their own action have placed themselves outside of their church benefactors," for it is mortifying, not to say provoking, to spend money, time and patience in training and culturing a man through a period of several years, and when he has reached the position where he can become

PERMANENT FUND OF BOARD OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION OF M. P. CHURCH.

DONORS.

James Hicks, Cincinnati, O.....	\$2,000 00
Daniel Horne, Cincinnati, O.....	500 00
Mrs. J. G. English, Pittsburgh, Pa.....	700 00
John Sargent, M. D., New Brighton, Pa.....	200 00
John Whetstone, Cincinnati, O.....	1,000 00
Mrs. Eliza Sands, Pittsburgh, Pa.....	400 00
	<hr/>
	\$4,800 00

INVESTMENTS.

Mortgage, T. H. Gibson, Sharpsburg, Pa.....	\$1,000 00
Bonds of Adrian College.....	1,000 00
Adrian College Investment, (Sargent Fund)...	200 00
13 Shares of Pittsburgh National Bank of Com- merce	1,490 00
15 Shares Monongahela Navigation Co.....	1,123 60
	<hr/>
	\$4,813 60

May 1, 1888.

JNO. H. CLANEY, *Treasurer.*

**Report of Committee on Differences Between New York
and Pennsylvania Conferences.**

[ADOPTED.]

Your committee on the paper referred to them, bearing on the differences existing between the Pennsylvania and New York Conferences, would report :

We recommend that the Presidents of the Maryland and Pittsburgh Conferences, together with a layman mutually agreed upon, shall constitute a Board of Arbitrators, to whom shall be referred for settlement the financial claims made by the Pennsylvania on the New York Conference.

A. W. ROBERTSON,
J. B. THOMAS,
J. M. McHENRY.

PAPER REFERRED TO ABOVE COMMITTEE.

Resolved, That our representatives be directed to call the attention of the General Conference to our equitable claim on the New York Conference for fund raised in and by this district for the aid of our superannuated ministers.

J. R. BOTTS,
G. P. MILLER.

Report of Committee on Finance.

[ADOPTED.]

1. We recommend that item one, page three, of the Discipline be amended by inserting the word *local* after the word *current* at the end of the third line, and

STATEMENT OF TREASURY OF THE BOARD OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION
OF M. P. CHURCH, FOR FOUR YEARS, ENDING MAY 1ST, 1888.

	May 1, to July 1, 1884.	To July 1, 1885.	To July 1, 1886.	To July 1, 1887.	To May 1, 1888.	Aggregates.	
Balance May 1, '84							\$ 1,496.71
RECEIPTS.							
New York Conference	\$ 2.54	\$ 38.81	\$ 96.91	\$ 44.40	\$ 40.74	\$ 223.40	
Onondaga Conference		57.31	71.72	58.88	59.77	247.68	
Genesee Conference		17.65	5.20	25.71	20.92	69.48	
New Jersey Conf		14.95	26.77	54.92	41.00	137.64	
Pennsylvania Conf		2.50	14.69	13.25	17.90	48.34	
Pittsburgh Conf	73.60	354.31	189.39	363.99	275.44	1,256.73	
Maryland Conference		391.57	447.65	421.84	428.69	1,689.25	
Virginia Conference			2.16	5.20	4.94	12.30	
Nor. Carolina Conf			10.00		70.25	80.25	
Georgia Conference		9.40	12.25	11.96		33.61	
Alabama Conference		16.10	38.00	3.65	19.05	76.80	
West Virginia Conf	4.56	18.45	14.04	27.02	1.00	65.07	
Ohio Conference	13.20	106.00	137.60	245.76	164.75	667.31	
Muskingum Conf	5.23	145.65	102.83	236.40	131.82	621.93	
Indiana Conference		29.22	63.84	114.67	98.41	306.14	
Michigan Conference		51.95	38.38	38.05	86.14	214.52	
West Michigan Conf		47.62	13.90	27.11	27.71	116.34	
North Illinois Conf		44.11	21.41	41.61	40.00	147.13	
So. Illinois Conference		4.80	6.65	5.00	12.00	28.45	
Minnesota Conference				4.00	27.94	31.94	
Iowa Conference		40.61	28.10	57.19	63.62	189.52	
Nebraska Conference				3.40	7.92	11.32	
Kansas Conference		6.30	1.18	4.00	20.60	32.08	
Missouri Conference			6.00		8.00	14.00	
North Missouri Conf		2.00	8.00		.50	10 50	
Individuals				9.31		9.31	6,341.04
Beneficiaries	110.00	290.00	487.50	411.70	177.50	1,476.70	
Interest	7.00	266.00	392.50	277.00	403.00	1,345.50	
Investments			700.00			700.00	3,522.20
	\$216.13	\$1,955.31	\$2,936.67	\$2,505.52	\$2,249.61	\$9,863.24	\$11,359.95
DISBURSEMENTS.							
Beneficiaries at Adrian	\$192.50	\$1,005.00	\$ 585.00	\$1,010.00	\$ 540.00	\$3,332.50	
Benef. at Westminster	89.00	470.00	505.00	775.00	1,088.00	2,927.00	
Cor. Sec'y and Agt.	50.00	300.00	400.00	400.01	333.30	1,483.31	
Traveling Expenses	69.50	131.35	172.84	152.96	156.72	683.37	
Printing & Stationery		50.90	29.10	24.70	30.25	134.95	
Postage and Exchange73	36.55	28.46	29.36	11.80	106.90	
Investments		1,015.00		1,070.00	53.60	2,138.60	
Old Debt		100.00				100.00	
	\$401.73	\$3,108.80	\$1,720.40	\$3,462.03	\$2,213.67	\$10,906.63	\$10,906.63
Balance							\$ 453.32

May 1, 1888.

JNO. H. CLANEY, *Treasurer.*

COURSE OF STUDY.

(To be mandatory only on such Annual Conferences as have no course of study.)

Candidates for license to preach will be expected to pass a satisfactory examination in the following studies :

English Grammar, General History, Elementary Rhetoric and Logic, Doctrines of the Bible, History and Polity of the Methodist Protestant Church.

After having received license to preach, the following is recommended as a course of reading in view of being admitted to ordination :

First Year—Old Testament Theology, Homiletics, Systematic Theology, Apologetics and Mental Science.

Second Year—New Testament Theology, Pastoral Theology, Systematic Theology, Dogmatics, Moral Science.

Third Year—Systematic Theology, Ecclesiology, Natural Theology, Church History and Eschatology and History of Doctrines.

The following text-books, from which, where more than one is named, one may be selected for thorough study, are recommended :

Systematic Theology—Raymond, Pope, Lee, Watson, Wakefield and Summers.

Old Testament Theology—Oehler.

New Testament Theology—Van Oosterzee, Schmidt.

Natural Theology—Chadbourne, Paley and Diman.

Mental Science—Porter, Hickok, Wayland, Upham and Sully.

Moral Science—Hopkins, Calderwood and Hickok.

Homiletics—Phelps, Kidder, Porter and Hoppin.

Church History—Fisher, Hase and Mosheim.

History of Doctrines—Shedd.

Pastoral Theology—Hoppin, Shedd and Kidder.

Respectfully submitted,

COMMITTEE.

Report of Committee on Rituals.

Your committee has had under consideration the few papers submitted and beg leave to report as follows :

1. A paper on marriage ceremony, presented by L. W. Bates, proposes to strike out the italics under directions for using the ring, and insert : If the parties desire the ceremony of the ring, the minister shall now receive the ring from the hand of the man, and say to him :

You will now place the ring on the fourth finger of the left hand of your bride, to remain as a perpetual memorial of the holy covenant into which you have both entered, and of the solemn pledges which you have each made to the other in the presence of Him who hath said : "And they twain shall be one flesh."

The committee concurs.

2. A paper from G. W. Miller, proposes to strike out the last two lines on page twenty-six of Discipline. The committee reports unfavorably.

that at the end of the item the following sentence be inserted : They shall also ascertain the amounts required for the various benevolences, apportion the same and co-operate with the pastor in the collection thereof.

2. That item two be inserted as follows :

That wherever it is practicable what is called the envelope plan be used in collecting church and benevolent funds, and that such committees and collectors as may be deemed necessary be appointed to assist and co-operate in making the collections.

3. That items two and three as they now stand in the Discipline be numbered three and four, respectively.

4. We further recommend that as far as practicable the collections be taken as follows :

Foreign Missions in the first quarter of the calendar year ; Home Missions in the second ; Ministerial Education in the third, and College (or Seminary) in the fourth, and that where the peculiarities of any district shall seem to require it the Annual Conference shall fix the time (proximately) when all the collections shall be taken, including both those ordered by the General and Annual Conferences.

HUGH STACKHOUSE, J. T. MURRAY,
L. E. DAVIS, M. H. HOLT.

Report of Committee on Course of Study.

[ADOPTED.]

Your committee, to whom was referred the duty of formulating a course of study for the guidance of those having the work of the ministry in view, and to aid Annual Conferences in directing the studies of candidates for elders' orders, would submit the following :

All that can be prudently done, as the matter seems to us, with respect to a course of study must be of a character purely recommendatory, leaving to Annual Conferences the privilege of varying the course as their special and peculiar surroundings may from time to time require. Hence we submit merely a condensed outline of a course of theological reading, to which additions may be made at pleasure as circumstances may demand.

Your committee also submit a list of text-books on the several subjects, the book first named being the one to which preference is given by the committee. This choice is simply an expression of opinion on the part of members of the committee, and is not to be considered as authoritative.

As there did not seem to be any clear and well-defined notion in the minds of the committee as to precisely what they were expected to do, it may be that the result of their deliberations, herewith submitted, will not be entirely satisfactory to you ; if so, the remedy is within your reach.

It is submitted that all examinations should be so conducted as to show a mastery of the subject, rather than the mastery merely of a text-book, and in determining the standing of the one examined a pass grade of not less than sixty per cent. should be required, clear thinking rather than readiness in reciting being the object in view.

FORM OF RECEPTION INTO MEMBERSHIP.

The candidates appearing before the church, the minister shall address them as follows :

Having accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, and the Holy Spirit as your Sanctifier, Comforter and Guide, and having devoted yourself to God in the everlasting covenant of his grace, and having consecrated your powers to his service and glory, will you continue to give diligent attention to his word and ordinances, and will you seek the honor and advancement of His kingdom? Denying all ungodliness and worldly lusts will you live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world? In joining yourself to this church do you agree to all its rules of government; to contribute as God gives you ability for the support of the gospel ministry and the local and general interests of the church, &c., (as on page 121)?

Report of Committee on Communications.

Your committee respectfully submit the following report :

1. We have had before us the papers referring to an organic union with the Cumberland Presbyterian and the Congregational Methodist Churches. We have given them a very careful and serious consideration. We rejoice at the growth in spiritual unity, as manifested by the fraternal character of the several communications before us. Your committee while recognizing these facts, are of the opinion that the question of organic union with either of these bodies herein named is of such importance as to suggest, that we give it a calm and judicious consideration.

We, as a Methodist Protestant Church, claim, as a reason for our distinct denominational existence, certain great fundamental principles, from which a departure in the least degree would involve interests and questions of vital importance not only within our denominational lines, but also within our common Methodism throughout the world.

To abandon or even to show a want of confidence in these principles, at a time when there is a strong sentiment in the Methodist Episcopal Church now leading them to the adoption of the views of our fathers upon the subject of church polity, would be to commit a grievous blunder that in effect would be equivalent to blotting out our history in the past and a tacit acknowledgment that the early reformers were in part mistaken, if not entirely wrong, in the position they announced and defended.

Your committee are of the further opinion, that so long as the question of organic union is under the consideration of our General Conference, our church will be in a continual confusion and a state of unrest, and there will be a hindrance of our work in every department of the church, which may impede and seriously impair our general work. Evidence is not wanting to prove that such influences have been already exerted.

Then again, your committee would call attention to the fact that in the event of the consummation of such proposed organic union, if it were necessary to

3. Several forms of statistical reports, from various sources, and suggestions for uniform blanks for the several Conferences have been before us. We are of the opinion that the instructions given on page seventy-four, and the form furnished on page one hundred and thirty-nine of Discipline, are sufficiently explicit, and decline to make any change.

4. The paper presented by M. L. Barnett and others, suggesting that a suitable certificate of church membership be prepared and published for the use of the Methodist Protestant Church in the several Conferences is not approved by the committee.

WM. S. HAMMOND, H. H. WOODWARD,
F. N. FOSTER, G. W. BOXELL.
A. ALEXANDER,

The following forms were presented and adopted by the Conference :

FORM OF CERTIFICATE OF CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.

_____, a member of the Methodist Protestant Church, desiring to remove from this charge, is entitled to this certificate of good standing.

_____, Pastor.
_____, 188—.

_____. Charge.

Address to the party receiving a certificate :

Dear _____ : As you are about to remove from the vicinity of the church with which you have been connected, it is most important that you should as early as possible unite yourself to some church of your own denomination, and if there be none, seek such church relations as will promote your highest spiritual good. It is the most sincere desire of your pastor that you may constantly enjoy the favor of God ; and you are earnestly exhorted to increased diligence and faith.

_____, Pastor.

The following resolution is offered by the Committee :

Resolved, "That a blank embracing the above certificate and address be prepared and published, and be kept in stock in our Book Concerns."

FORM FOR RECEPTION OF PROBATIONERS.

The candidate standing before the church, let the officiating minister ask the following questions : Have you a desire to be saved from your sins by grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ? Is it your sincere purpose, through divine help, to walk in all the commandments of God, blameless?

Address of pastor to candidates : You have now associated yourself with the church of Christ. Attend regularly the public and social means of grace. Be diligent in reading the Scriptures and cultivate the spirit of prayer.

Address of minister to the church : Take by the hand and hold close to your heart these persons who have just entered the fold. They will need your sympathies and prayers.

Your committee would, however, leave the further consideration of this important subject to your wise deliberation and counsel. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. A. SPENCE.

Report of Committee to Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

The committees appointed by the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church at its session held in the city of Baltimore, in May, 1884, and of the General Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at its session held in Bentonville, Arkansas, in May, 1885, for the purpose of considering the question of organic union between the two churches, met in the parlors of the Maxwell House in the city of Nashville, Tennessee, on the thirteenth day of May, 1886, at ten o'clock A. M. There were present on the part of the Methodist Protestant Church, Rev. G. B. McElroy, D. D., of Michigan, Rev. J. J. Smith, D. D., of New York, Rev. F. H. M. Henderson, D. D., of Georgia, and J. W. Hering, M. D., of Maryland; absent, Thos. Sankey, of Pennsylvania. Present, on the part of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Rev. W. H. Black, M. A., of Missouri, and A. B. Martin, LL. D., of Tennessee; absent, Hon. John Frizzell, of Tennessee, and Rev. A. J. McGlumphy, D. D., of Illinois.

The joint meeting was organized by the election of G. B. McElroy, D. D., Chairman, and Rev. W. H. Black, Secretary.

Before proceeding to business, prayer was offered by Rev. W. H. Black. The committee state that they have felt the grave responsibility of the position in which they have been placed, and have endeavored, most carefully and with much prayer, to consider the important subjects intrusted to them, and beg leave to submit the following as the result of their deliberations.

First. We have carefully examined the creed of the two churches, and find no difference, whatever, except that which grows out of the doctrines of the "Preservation of Believers" and "Apostasy," which we agree are not essential to the Christian system, and may with propriety be left open and unexpressed in the creed of the united church.

We have also examined the formulated expressions of the creed of the respective churches as stated in the Confession of Faith of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church and the Discipline of the Methodist Protestant Church, and while either sets forth the doctrines clearly, that of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church is more full and systematic, and we could confidently recommend it to the favorable consideration of a joint convention of the two churches, if such should be held.

Second. We have at much length discussed the polity of the respective churches, and are of the unanimous opinion that no serious impediment to an organic union exists in their government, but that a satisfactory adjustment may be accomplished.

We are pleased to state that the committees have, with the utmost frankness, communicated with each other upon the various points of their work; that a

make any changes in the fundamental laws or doctrines of our church, there could be opened a cause for litigation in regard to church property and the disposition of trust funds, now sacredly held by us for the use and benefit of the interests of the Methodist Protestant Church, that would be disastrous to our now united church, and destroy the very object for which such organic union is proposed ; therefore,

Your committee is of the unanimous opinion that further overtures in this direction should now cease ; and that as Methodist Protestants we are content and as such we are willing to remain ; and we are always ready with open doors to receive all who may desire our fellowship and aid us in evangelizing the world and saving our race from sin and death.

Respectfully submitted,

S. A. FISHER, WM. D. TOMKINSON,
JOHN G. COLDWELL, WM. J. SPEER.

Report of Commissioners to Congregational Methodist Church.

Alabama, May, 1884.

Dear Brethren and Fathers: Of the five commissioners appointed at your last session, 1884, to attend the General Conference of the above named Congregational Methodist Church, only one attended (J. A. Spence).

I was very cordially received by the President and brethren generally, and respectfully heard in my address before the body. Brother H. Stackhouse, though not present, sent a communication to the Conference, which was read and listened to with marked attention.

The response to our messages was kind and brotherly, but no action was taken by that body looking to any organic union with us. Many inquiries were made in reference to our polity, and especially in regard to our itinerancy, which your committee endeavored fully and frankly to explain. So far as is known to your committee, nothing of importance has occurred since that occasion.

Your committee would suggest, that in the event of any additional light or information that may come before you, it might be well to appoint another set of commissioners to confer with a like number of commissioners appointed by said Congregational Methodist Church, to consider the practicability of organic union. From the signs of the times we may gather the pleasing fact, that many of the great religious families of the world seem strongly inclined to come nearer together. The Methodist Episcopal Church, North and South, are negotiating for union, and nearly all the Methodist families of England are favorably inclined to consider the great importance of a general union, and steps in that direction have already begun. These are blessed omens of the world's improvement under the gracious influences of our holy Christianity. A union of religious forces is certainly necessary to effect more on a larger scale than small, isolated enterprises. Nor should we allow old fogysm to interpose trifles to prevent it.

dition stones of our edifice. Now, will your people give up your Quarterly Conferences and take our Church Sessions in their places?

"Again, I understand you admit unordained laymen to your Annual Conference (which seem to answer the purposes of Presbyteries). Now, we could not admit an unordained person. These two systems are so essentially different that they can never be made to harmonize, is plain to my mind. Hence to form a union that would be worth anything, one side or the other must yield or give up their peculiar system. We cannot. The question is with you?

"Again, your Annual Conference stations your ministers yearly; this would be another difficulty. Our people, I am sure, would never accept that."

From the foregoing remarks, and many others at the time, I became satisfied that the difficulties in the way of a union between the two churches were too numerous and serious to warrant any farther move upon our part looking toward a union with this body, unless it is made necessary by their own formal and definite action.

I am more and more impressed with all that I have seen reported from them upon this subject, that it becomes us as a church to move slowly and cautiously in this matter, and give them no occasion to represent us as over anxious for organic union.

Hoping that the Great Head of the church will be with you, and will preside over you in all your deliberation, and that great peace, harmony and wisdom may characterize every session until your final adjournment is reached, is my earnest prayer.

Yours truly, J. J. SMITH.

Report of Committee on Publishing Interests.

[ADOPTED.]

The Committee on the Publishing Interests of the Church, having carefully considered the various subjects referred to them, ask leave to submit the following :

Responding to the inquiry propounded by Rev. R. H. Wills, touching the number of copies of the "Tribute of Praise," both music and word editions, since it came into possession of our church, we report 22,000 of the former and 13,000 of the latter.

A letter from Mrs. S. Franklin, Centreville, Iowa, containing a proposition to sell to our Board of Publication the copyright of "Franklin's Review of Wesleyan Perfection," was respectfully considered and the proposition declined. The committee recommend that the letter be returned to the author.

Respecting the resolution submitted by Bros. R. H. Wills, J. R. Ball and W. C. Whitaker, touching the question of additional hymns, say 50 to 100; a new edition, with character notes, and a change in the name of our present hymn book from "Tribute of Praise" to "Methodist Protestant Hymn Book," your committee report that, from all they can gather, the General Conference has no right to change the title or revise the book further than to add to its already too numerous collection of hymns. The stereotype plates are ours to publish the

commendable Christian spirit has been evinced by all, and that their conclusions have been reached in a most satisfactory manner.

We have not felt at liberty to proceed further with the work of organic union, believing that it is wise and for the best interests of both churches to rest at present, with the statement that no doctrinal difficulty stands in the way of union, and that all which pertains to polity can be arranged satisfactorily by the two churches in a joint assembly.

We believe the union if consummated will be for the glory of God, and for the advancement of his kingdom, and can see no sufficient reason why two bodies of Christians so alike in doctrine, government and practice should long remain as separate organizations.

In the name of our divine Master, we submit these views to the churches, and recommend that they take such further action in the matter as they may deem best.

G. B. McELROY,	J. J. SMITH,
W. H. BLACK,	F. H. M. HENDERSON,
S. L. RUSSELL,	A. B. MARTIN.
J. W. HERING,	

J. J. SMITH'S LETTER SUBMITTED TO ABOVE COMMITTEE.

Tomkins Cove, May 21, 1888.

Dear Fathers and Brethren: My deep interest in the welfare, unity and prosperity of our beloved denomination must be my apology for troubling you with this communication.

As I suppose the question of union with the Cumberland Presbyterians will come up before your body, I have felt for some days past that perhaps it would be as well for me (not officially at all but as an individual) to lay before you the substance of a conversation that I had with a gentleman in the Cumberland Presbyterian Publishing House at Nashville, Tennessee, when I was there as one of the committee from our church, and whom I took to be one of the editors.

The tendency of his remarks was to make the impression that the proposition for union came from us, and that it was being considered by them more as a matter of courtesy to us than out of any expectation that a union between the two denominations would ever be consummated. He would not say, however, that such a union was an impossibility, for that would depend very much on what *we* were willing to yield. When asked what he considered to be the most serious difficulties in the way, he said it was not easy for him to point them out, as he was not sufficiently acquainted with the practicable workings of our church machinery, but that as he understood it, the workings of the two systems were so essentially different that they could never be harmonized.

"In the first place," said he, "you have in each station a Quarterly Conference made up chiefly of unordained persons, while we have in each station a Church Session consisting of the pastor and ruling ordained elders. Now our people could not give up Church Sessions, as thus constituted, and take in its place your Quarterly Conferences, as this would be to remove one of the leading foun-

Respecting the resolution referred to us, touching the publication of the *Methodist Protestant Year Book*, we recommend that the Board of Publication issue a *Year Book* in which shall be published the reports of the various Boards, and the financial and membership statistics of the church, including the Sunday-schools ; *provided*, that each pastor shall receive one free copy, the residue to be sold for the benefit of the Board. All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. B. GRAHAM, *Chairman*.

Report of Board of Publication.

Your Board respectfully submit the following report of its work during the quadrennium :

Our first meeting was held in Pittsburgh, August 20, 1884, and at this meeting the members of the Board constituting the Pittsburgh Directory questioned the right of the President of the General Conference to a seat as a member of the Board, on the ground that the charter of the Directory designates who shall be members of the Board of Publication, and that the General Conference had taken no action authorizing a change in the charter admitting an additional member. The President having decided against the Directory, an appeal was taken and the decision was sustained. We then proceeded under the instructions of the General Convention of 1884 and organized the Sunday-school literature into a separate department, elected Rev. J. F. Cowan, of West Virginia Conference, editor, and authorized the issue of the following periodicals :

Our Morning Guide, weekly ; 1 copy, 80 cents per year ; to schools, 36 cents per year.

Our Children, illustrated, weekly ; 1 copy, 40 cents per year ; to schools, 15 cents per year.

The Teachers' Journal, quarterly, 64 pages ; 1 copy, 50 cents per year ; to schools, 35 cents per year ; quarterly, 10 cents.

The Scholars' Quarterly, 32 pages ; quarterly, to schools, 3 cents per quarter ; 11 cents per year.

The Bible School Leaf, monthly ; $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per month ; 5 cents per year of 52 numbers.

We arranged with the Pittsburgh Directory for the publication of the Sunday-school periodicals upon the following terms :

Resolved, That we authorize the Pittsburgh Directory to publish the Sunday-school papers according to the following proposition made to this Board by the Pittsburgh Directory :

First. To undertake the publication of the Sunday-school literature of the church under the control of the Board of Publication and in connection with the editor who has been elected.

Second. To assume all financial responsibility arising from the publication of our Sunday-school periodicals, including the editor's salary.

Third. To supply the Baltimore Directory with our Sunday-school publications, as follows : On orders where papers are to be mailed directly to sub

book as it is, subject to a certain royalty. To make any change would involve trouble, expense and some confusion, in view of the large number of hymn books of the present edition now in use among our people. The committee therefore report adversely upon all these propositions, but would take occasion to recommend the appointment by this Conference of a committee to attend the proposed Ecumenical Conference in 1890, and co-operate with other branches of the great Methodist family to secure a hymnal for our world-wide Methodism.

Your committee recommend the following addition to Section 17, page 99, of Discipline: "These reports shall be made up and submitted according to a form or plan which shall be proposed and adopted by the Board of Publication, and it shall be incumbent upon each Directory to observe the same forms in every particular in their respective annual reports." We also recommend that the assumed value of what is denominated "good will," which is always an uncertain quantity, be omitted from all future reports of the value of our newspaper property.

Upon the various suggestions submitted to us by order of this Conference from the Board of Publication we report as follows:

That Article 1, page 96, be amended to read: "The publishing concerns of the Methodist Protestant Church shall be located at Baltimore and at Pittsburgh, and shall be under the control of the General Conference.

That Article 3, page 96, be amended by omitting the words "Together with the President of the General Conference."

That Article 4, page 96, be amended to read, "The *Methodist Protestant* and the *Methodist Recorder* shall be official organs of the Methodist Protestant Church."

That Article 5, page 97, be amended to read after the word "copyrights," "Official organs and Sunday-school publications."

That Article 7, page 97, be substituted by the following: There shall be at least one meeting of the Board of Publication in each quadrennium, the time for which shall be fixed by the Board. All business not absolutely requiring the assembling of the Board may be transacted by correspondence, as follows: "Either Directory may submit to the other Directory measures for joint action, and both concurring, it shall be considered as the action of the Board of Publication, and be so received. Measures thus submitted shall be acted upon within ten (10) days after having been sent by one Directory to the other."

That Article 12, page 98, be amended to read, "The Sunday-school publications shall be under the control of the Board of Publication, which shall determine the number, form, character and price of the publications, and shall have authority to fill any vacancies that may occur in the editorship of the Sunday-school periodicals."

That Article 13, page 98, be amended so as to read, "The General Conference shall elect the editors of the official organs and Sunday-school publications and the Publishing Agents."

That Articles 15 and 16, page 98, be stricken out. In all of the suggestions of the Board of Publication, enumerated above, your committee concur, but in the changes proposed in Article 1, page 99, they non-concur.

tween the Directories regarding the right of the Board of Publication to alter the reports of the Directories, the Baltimore Directory taking the ground that reports of Directories to the Board of Publication should conform to the form adopted by the Board May 3, 1882, the Pittsburgh Directory taking the position that the Directories should report the exact condition of their business as shown by their books, and that the Board of Publication should not make any alteration whatever in the reports of Directories, but should transmit said reports as prepared by the Directories to the General Conference.

We herewith transmit the reports of the Directories at Baltimore and Pittsburgh, showing the business of each year fully, and the present condition of your book concerns, and make the following recommendations :

1. That Article 1, page 96, be amended to read, "The publishing concerns of the Methodist Protestant Church shall be located at Baltimore and Pittsburgh, and shall be under the control of the General Conference." (Adopted.)

2. That Article 3, page 96, be amended by omitting the words "together with the President of the General Conference." (Adopted.)

3. That Article 4, page 96, be amended to read, "The *Methodist Protestant* and the *Methodist Recorder* shall be official organs of the Methodist Protestant Church." (Adopted.)

4. That Article 5, page 97, be amended to read, "Copyrights, official organs, and Sunday-school publications," after the word "our." (Adopted.)

5. That Article 7, page 97, be amended to read as follows: "There shall be at least one meeting in each quadrennium, the time for which shall be fixed by the Board. All business not absolutely requiring the assembling of the Board, may be transacted by correspondence as follows: Either Directory may submit to the other Directory measures for joint action, and both concurring it shall be considered as the action of the Board of Publication and be so recorded. Measures thus submitted shall be acted upon within ten days after having been sent by one Directory to the other." (Adopted as a substitute for Article 7.)

6. That Article 12, page 98, be amended so as to read, "The present Sunday-school publications shall be recognized as the Sunday-school literature of the church, and shall be under the control of the Board of Publication, which shall determine the number, form, character and price of the publications and shall have authority to fill any vacancies which may occur in the editorship of the Sunday-school periodicals." (Adopted.)

7. That Article 13, page 98, be amended so as to read, "The General Conference shall elect the editors of the official organs and Sunday-school publications, and the Publishing Agents." (Adopted.)

8. That Article 15, page 98, be stricken out. (Adopted.)

9. That Article 16, page 98, be stricken out. (Adopted.)

10. That Article 1, page 99, be amended as follows: (a) Insert the word "editors" before agents, fifth line; (b) insert the word "editor" before agents, sixth line; (c) strike out the word "or," seventh line; (d) insert after the word "duty"—"conduct affecting his moral character or the abuse of his official position." (Rejected.)

scribers, 20 per cent. discount ; when papers are shipped in bulk (carriage not included), 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. discount from subscription prices.

Fourth. To allow the Baltimore Directory a credit of one-third subscription price (one-half cost) for all unsold papers.

Fifth. To buy the electrotypes and engravings now in possession of the Baltimore Book Directory at the rate of one and one-half cents per square inch.

Sixth. The arrangement to go into effect January 1, 1885.

September 1, 1884, Rev. J. F. Cowan took charge of the department, and in January, 1885, the new publications were issued. They were cordially received and have grown steadily in favor. The financial outlay involved was large and a considerable loss was incurred the first year. But the church responded right loyally in sustaining the new enterprise. The patronage steadily increased, until now this department is on a self-sustaining basis, and our own promises to supplant wholly the irresponsible literature which four years ago seemed to have a firm foothold in the church.

At the second meeting, held in Baltimore, March 5, 1885, the Committee on the Biography of Nicholas Snethen reported that they found the manuscript suitable for publication, and it was decided to issue a prospectus, publish it in the official papers soliciting subscriptions, and publish the work when sufficient subscriptions were received to justify the publication.

Club rates for our official papers suggested by the publishing agents were approved November 20, 1885 ; reduction in price of *Morning Guide* from 45 cents to 36 cents was authorized November 9 and 15, 1886, and John G. Clarke was elected President, *vice* Dr. H. F. Zollickoffer, deceased. These three meetings were held by the Directories meeting separately and communicating by telegraph.

A meeting was held in Pittsburgh June 2, 1887, and upon report of the death of our late President, Dr. H. F. Zollickoffer, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That we record with profound sensibility the death of our beloved associate and brother, Dr. H. F. Zollickoffer, for many years President of this Board.

That we appreciatively acknowledge his qualities as President of this Board and his valuable services to the church in his official relation as a wise and judicious counselor, and his ever-ready response to the demands of duty in this connection, though it called him at a sacrifice from busy engagements in his own personal affairs.

That we hold in high admiration his Christian, social and official qualities, recognizing in his character the blending of many virtues and the consummation of a grand Christian manhood.

That his associations with us were of the most pleasurable character, leaving us to lament not only a valued official associate but a cherished personal friend.

In the matter of the publication of the life of Nicholas Snethen, Dr. Drinkhouse reported the subscription required to justify publication had failed by lack of over 400, and it was decided not to publish, and the manuscript was returned to Bro. Snethen's daughter at her request.

The question of the reports of the Directories and of the Board of Publication having been considered, it appeared that there was a difference of opinion be-

Methodist Protestant Church.

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Net Due.....	\$ 489 16	
		\$1,142 78
Net Assets....		\$3,302 71
Add for Good Will.....		4,500 00
		\$7,802 71

RECEIPTS.

Subscribers to Official Paper, <i>Methodist Protestant</i>	\$5,412 06	
Subscribers to Sunday-school Periodicals.....	6,010 11	
Advertisers	1,736 32	
Interest and Discount.....	170 51	
Rentals		
Hymn Books and other Merchandise.....	20 13	
Commissions.....	1,459 87	
Other Receipts.....	24 65	
Stock (Cash) on Hand and in Bank at last Report, February 29, 1884.....	1,233 92	
		\$16,067 57

DISBURSEMENTS.

Hymn Books, Stationery, etc.....	\$ 91 55	
Print Paper.....	1,506 54	
Press-work.....	994 74	
Composition	3,090 88	
Type, Engravings and other Printing Material.....	10 94	
Salaries	1,957 75	
Postage and Mailing Expenses.....	1,046 90	
Traveling Expenses.....	230 21	
Interest and Exchange.....	83 68	
Insurance and Taxes.....		
Commissions and Discounts.....	849 83	
Fixtures and Improvements.....		
Other Expenses.....	63 61	
Sunday-school Periodicals.....	2,967 96	
Rent, Fuel and Light.....	500 00	
Binding.....	180 05	
Pasting and Trimming.....	256 35	
Postage Stamps and Sundry Expenses.	162 99	
Accounts Payable February 1884.....	1,211 86	
Stock (Cash) on Hand and in Bank.....	861 73	
		\$16,067 57

CIRCULATION OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT.

February 29, 1884.....	3,424
February 28, 1885.....	3,092

Loss.....	332
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Report of Baltimore Book Directory.

The Baltimore Book Directory submits herewith to the Board of Publication of the Methodist Protestant Church the required financial reports covering the operations of the Directory for each of the years of the closing quadrennium, namely, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888.

In connection therewith we feel constrained to make brief allusion to the loss to this Directory and to our church at large in the death of our beloved friend and co-laborer, Doctor Henry Fletcher Zollickoffer, September 30, 1885.

Appropriate action with reference thereto was taken by this Directory at a meeting held October 29, 1885.

At the same meeting Dr. J. W. Hering, of Westminster, Md., was elected to the vacancy occasioned by the death of Dr. Zollickoffer.

HORACE BURROUGH,

Baltimore, February 29, 1888.

Secretary.

STATEMENT, FEB. 28, 1885.

ASSETS.

Real Estate—Actual Value.....	\$	
Office Furniture and Store Fixtures.....	150	00
Merchandise—Books, Stationery, Printing Paper.....	165	18
Type—Electro Plates, Engraving, etc.....	58	88
Other Property.....	50	10
Merchandise Accounts, Receivable.....	413	00
Due from Advertisers.....	242	00
Doubtful Accounts, \$1,138.40, actual value 25 per cent.	284	60
Stocks and other Securities.....	2,220	00
Cash on Hand and in Bank.....	861	73
	—————	\$ 4,445 49

LIABILITIES.

Mortgages.....	\$	
Borrowed Money.....		
Bills Payable for Merchandise.....	308	37
Accounts Payable.....	345	25
Other Liabilities—		
Due to Subscribers to <i>Methodist</i>		
<i>Protestant</i> at 16c. per month...	\$1,560	65
Due to Subscribers to Sunday-		
school Periodicals.....	1,153	63
Due to Advertisers.....	198	00
	—————	\$2,912 28
Less Due from Subscribers to <i>Meth-</i>		
<i>odist Protestant</i> at 16c. per mo.	\$2,135	47
Less Due from Subscribers to Sun-		
day-school Periodicals.....	287	65
	—————	\$2,423 12

Methodist Protestant Church.

81

RECEIPTS.

Subscribers to Official Paper, <i>Methodist Protestant</i>	\$4,568 61	
Subscribers to Sunday School Literature.....	3,735 04	
Advertisers.....	1,977 55	
Interest and Discount.....	157 48	
Rentals		
Hymn Books and other Merchandise.....	14 13	
Commissions.....	2,358 34	
Other Receipts.....	128 63	
Stock (Cash) on Hand and in Bank at last Report, February 28, 1885.....	861 73	
	<hr/>	\$13,801 51

DISBURSEMENTS.

Books, Stationery, etc.....	\$ 57 11	
Print Paper.....	781 80	
Press-work.....	421 60	
Composition	2,480 58	
Type, Engravings and other Printing Material.....		
Salaries	2,051 66	
Postage and Mailing Expenses.....	702 56	
Traveling Expenses.....	39 38	
Interest and Exchange.....	117 45	
Insurance and Taxes.....		
Commissions and Discounts.....	303 50	
Fixtures and Improvements.....	5 00	
Other Expenses.....	90 00	
Sunday-school Periodicals.....	5,502 03	
Rent, Fuel and Light.....	500 00	
Postage Stamps and Sundry Expenses.....	146 53	
Accounts Payable February, 1885.....	461 48	
Stock (Cash) on Hand and in Bank.....	140 83	
	<hr/>	\$13,801 51

CIRCULATION OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT.

February 28, 1885.....	3,092	
February 28, 1886.....	2,813	
	<hr/>	279
Loss.....		425
Discontinued in Default of Renewal.....		184
Discontinued because of Delinquency.....		<hr/>
		609
		330
New names during the year.....		<hr/>
		279

Discontinued in Default of Renewal.....	593	
Discontinued because of Delinquency.....	143	
	<hr/>	736
New names during the year.....	404	
	<hr/>	332

CIRCULATION OF SABBATH-SCHOOL PERIODICALS.

February 29, 1884, Put to Press.....	51,884
February 28, 1885, Actually Bought.....	29,085
	<hr/>
Apparent Loss.....	22,799

STATEMENT, FEBRUARY 28, 1886.

ASSETS.

Real Estate—Actual Value.....	\$	
Office Furniture.....	100	00
Merchandise—Books, Stationery, Printing Paper, etc....	26	83
Type—Electro Plates, Engravings, etc.....		
Other Property.....	47	10
Merchandise Accounts, Receivable.....	2,030	50
Due from Subscribers to <i>Methodist Protestant</i> , at 16 cents per month.....	2,321	60
Due from Subscribers to Sunday-school Periodicals.....	289	33
Due from Advertisers.....	74	45
Doubtful Accounts, \$1,432.00, actual value 25 per cent.	358	00
Stocks and other Securities.....	2,480	00
Cash on Hand and in Bank.....	140	83
	<hr/>	\$ 7,868 64

LIABILITIES.

Mortgages.....	\$	
Borrowed Money.....		
Bills Payable for Merchandise.....	440	91
Accounts Payable.....	365	35
Other Liabilities.....	1,199	67
Due to Subscribers to <i>Methodist Protestant</i> , at 16 cents per month.....	1,335	13
Due to Subscribers to Sunday-school Periodicals at year- ly rates	1,017	12
	<hr/>	\$ 4,358 18
Net Assets.....		\$ 3,510 46
Add for Good Will.....		4,500 00
		<hr/>
		\$ 8,010 46

Methodist Protestant Church.

83

Rentals	\$	
Hymn Books and Other Merchandise.....	162	78
Commissions	523	26
Other Receipts.....	7	36
Stock (Cash) on Hand and in Bank at last report, Feb- ruary 28, 1886.....	140	83
	—————	\$ 13,641 56

DISBURSEMENTS.

Hymn Books, Stationery, etc.....	\$	157	19
Print Paper.....	978	79	
Press-work.....	430	85	
Composition.....	2,522	84	
Type, Engravings and other Printing Material.....	18	70	
Salaries	2,108	00	
Postage and Mailing Expenses.....	641	38	
Traveling Expenses.....	12	76	
Interest.....			
Insurance and Taxes.....			
Commissions and Discounts	497	32	
Fixtures and Improvements.....	61	25	
Other Expenses.....	7	50	
General Conference Cumberland Presbyterian Church Union Committee.....	90	26	
Sunday-school Periodicals, net.....	3,191	42	
Rent, Fuel and Light.....	500	00	
Postage Stamps and Sundry Expenses.....	268	71	
Accounts Payable February, 1886.....	559	86	
Stock (Cash) on Hand and in Bank.....	1,594	73	
	—————	—	\$ 13,641 56

CIRCULATION OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT.

February 28, 1887.....	2,941	
February 28, 1886.....	2,813	
	—————	
Gain.....		128
Discontinued in default of renewal.....	323	
Discontinued because of delinquency.....	263	
	—————	
	586	
New names during the year.....	714	128

CIRCULATION OF SABBATH-SCHOOL PERIODICALS.

February 28, 1887, bought.....	23,990	
February 28, 1886, bought.....	23,690	
	—————	
Apparent gain.....		300
Surplus stock of Quarterlies in 1886 over 1887.....	980	
	—————	
Nearer the real gain		1,280

Fifteenth Quadrennial Session.

CIRCULATION OF SABBATH-SCHOOL PERIODICALS.

February 28, 1885, Actually Bought.....	29,085
February 28, 1886, Actually Bought.....	23,690
Apparent Loss.....	5,395
<i>My Picture Lesson</i> , Discontinued April, 1885.....	15,000
Apparent Loss above.....	5,395
Real Gain.....	9,605

STATEMENT, FEBRUARY 28, 1887.

ASSETS.

Real Estate—Actual Value.....	\$	
Office Furniture and Store Fixtures.....	75	
Merchandise—Books, Stationery, Printing Paper, etc.....	25	
Type, Electro Plates, Engravings, etc.....		
Other Property	22	
Merchandise Accounts, Receivable.....	1,925	86
Due from Subscribers to <i>Methodist Protestant</i> , at 16 cents per Month.....	1,784	26
Due from Subscribers to Sunday-school Periodicals.....	352	07
Due from Advertisers.....	518	14
Doubtful Accounts, \$1,330.30, actual value 25 per cent..	332	57
Stocks and Other Securities.....	2,480	00
Cash on Hand and in Bank.....	1,594	73
		<u>\$ 9,109 63</u>

LIABILITIES.

Mortgages.....	\$	
Borrowed Money.....		
Bills Payable for Merchandise.....		
Accounts Payable.....	389	13
Other Liabilities.....	1,814	02
Due to Subscribers to <i>Methodist Protestant</i> , at 16 cents per month,.....	1,712	51
Due to Subscribers to Sunday-school Periodicals, at year- ly rates.....	1,069	15
		<u>\$ 4,984 81</u>
Net Capital	\$	4,124 82
Add for Good Will.....		4,500 00
		<u>\$ 8,624 82</u>

RECEIPTS.

Subscribers to Official Paper, <i>Methodist Protestant</i>	\$5,547 59
Subscribers to Sunday School Literature.....	4,437 35
Advertisers.....	2,682 39
Interest.....	140 00

DISBURSEMENTS.

Books, Stationery, etc.....	\$ 123 96
Print Paper.....	1,472 38
Press-work.....	534 40
Composition.....	2,603 86
Type, Engravings and other Printing Material.....	
Salaries.....	2,137 00
Postage and Mailing Expenses.....	1,001 86
Traveling Expenses.....	219 36
Interest.....	
Insurance and Taxes.....	
Commissions and Discounts.....	869 88
Fixtures and Improvements.....	
Other Expenses.....	150 00
Sunday-school Periodicals, net.....	3,020 02
Rent, Fuel and Light.....	500 00
Postage Stamps and Sundry Expenses.....	335 29
Accounts Payable February, 1887.....	1,869 50
Borrow and Loan.....	554 50
Stock (Cash) on Hand and in Bank.....	1,472 03
	—————\$ 16,864 04

CIRCULATION OF THE METHODIST PROTESTANT.

February 29, 1888.....	3,535
February 28, 1887.....	2,941
	—————
Gain.....	594
Discontinued in default of renewal.....	426
Discontinued because of delinquency.....	148
	—————
New names during the year.....	1,168
	—————
	594

CIRCULATION OF SABBATH-SCHOOL PERIODICALS.

February 29, 1888, bought.....	25,105
February 28, 1887, bought.....	23,990
	—————
Gain.....	1,115

Report of Pittsburgh Book Directory.

The Pittsburgh Book Directory herewith submits to the Board of Publication, and through it to the General Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church, the following report of its work during the past four years—1885, 1886, 1887 and 1888.

Fifteenth Quadrennial Session.

STATEMENT, FEBRUARY 29, 1888.

ASSETS.

Real Estate—Actual Value.....	\$	
Office Furniture and Store Fixtures.....	75	00
Merchandise—Books, Stationery, Printing Paper, etc.....	137	35
Type, Electro Plates, Engravings, etc.....		
Other Property.....	21	40
Merchandise Accounts, Receivable.....	2,524	76
Due from Subscribers to <i>Methodist Protestant</i> , at 12 cents per month.....	975	26
Due from Subscribers to Sunday-school Periodicals.....	312	76
Due from Advertisers.....	520	00
Doubtful Accounts, \$757.90, actual value 25 per cent.....	189	48
Stocks and other Securities.....	2,400	00
Cash on hand and in Bank.....	1,472	03
	—————	\$ 8,628 04
Good Will.....		4,500 00
		—————
		\$ 13,128 04

LIABILITIES.

Mortgages.....		
Borrowed Money.....		
Bills Payable for Merchandise.....		
Accounts Payable.....	\$ 424	32
Other Liabilities.....	192	11
Due to Subscribers to <i>Methodist Protestant</i> , at 16 cents per month.....	2,555	94
Due to Subscribers to Sunday-school Periodicals, at year- ly rates.....	1,086	29
	—————	\$ 4,258 66
Net Capital.....		\$ 8,869 38

RECEIPTS.

Subscribers to Official Paper, <i>Methodist Protestant</i>	\$7,050	35
Subscribers to Sunday-school Literature.....	4,559	20
Advertisers.....	2,908	69
Interest.....	167	67
Rentals.....		
Books and Other Merchandise.....		
Commissions.....	509	97
Other Receipts.....	73	43
Stock (Cash) on Hand and in Bank at last report, Feb- ruary 29, 1887.....	1,594	73
	—————	\$ 16,864 04

Methodist Protestant Church.

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Rentals	\$ 1,998 98
Other Sources.....	118 71
	<hr/>
Total Receipts.....	\$133,702 86
Stock, Books and Mdse. on hand March 3, 1888.....	9,453 95
	<hr/>
	\$143,156 81

RECEIPTS BY YEARS.

Year ending March 1, 1885.....	\$ 25,289 24
“ March 1, 1886.....	33,330 33
“ March 1, 1887.....	36,183 04
“ March 1, 1888.....	38,900 25
	<hr/>
Total, four years.....	\$133,702 86

DISBURSEMENTS.

Books Bought and Published.....	\$ 34,355 14
Printing Paper.....	21,069 03
Press-work.....	9,987 13
Postage on Periodicals.....	3,332 70
Periodicals Bought.....	1,816 43
Salaries, Editors and Agent, Wages and Commissions...	23,441 76
Composition, Printing Office.....	16,225 14
Copyright on “Tribute of Praise”.....	844 17
Taxes and Insurance.....	2,259 86
Traveling Expenses.....	495 59
Expense, Light, Fuel, Circulars, Catalogues, Stationery, Advertising, &c.....	4,325 26
Stamps, on Books, Letters and Circulars.....	2,465 15
Interest on Mortgage	1,920 00
Interest on Loans.....	550 89
Premiums	450 97
Correspondence.....	132 00
Repairs to Book Room Property.....	307 94
Rebate for Periodicals, unsold.....	78 22

CHARGED TO PROFIT AND LOSS.

Expenses of Commissioners to C. P. Church.....	95 29
Bad Accounts.....	677 16
Year Book.....	103 86
Stereotype Plates.....	339 63
Engravings.....	840 03
Type and Printing Material.....	826 48
Store and Office Fixtures.....	176 54
	<hr/>
Total Disbursements.....	\$127,116 37

We are gratified to be able to report prosperity and advancement during the quadrennium. The circulation of the *Methodist Recorder* has, since 1884, been increased 22 per cent.; and the business of the paper has been placed upon a strictly cash basis. During the past quadrennium all indebtedness, except the mortgage upon the Fifth Avenue property, has been paid; and the net capital of the Directory has been increased 35 per cent. F. M. Durbin, of Grafton, W. Va., having (July 7, 1885) resigned his position as director, Nathan Jones, of the Second Church, Pittsburgh, was elected to fill the vacancy. We also report with gratitude to the kind donor, that Mrs. Dr. Bassett, the widow of our lamented church historian, has presented to this Directory the stereotype plates of the "History of the Methodist Protestant Church," revised by her husband just before he was called to his eternal reward. We have recently issued a new and greatly improved edition of this invaluable work, and we ask for it the generous patronage of the entire church.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RECEIPTS.

<i>Methodist Recorder</i> , Subscriptions, year ending March	
1, 1885.....	\$ 6,564 07
<i>Methodist Recorder</i> , Subscriptions, year ending March	
1, 1886.....	8,689 04
<i>Methodist Recorder</i> , Subscriptions, year ending March	
1, 1887.....	8,362 12
<i>Methodist Recorder</i> , Subscriptions, year ending March	
1, 1888.....	8,345 18
	—————\$ 31,960 41
<i>Methodist Recorder</i> , Advertisements, year ending March	
1, 1885.....	\$ 4,125 82
<i>Methodist Recorder</i> , Advertisements, year ending March	
1, 1886.....	3,887 60
<i>Methodist Recorder</i> , Advertisements, year ending March	
1, 1887.....	4,264 79
<i>Methodist Recorder</i> , Advertisements, year ending March	
1, 1888.....	4,102 58
	—————\$ 16,380 79
Sunday-school Periodicals, year ending March 1, 1885. ...	
" " " " March 1, 1886.....	\$ 5,529 80
" " " " March 1, 1887.....	10,923 93
" " " " March 1, 1888.....	12,424 08
	13,523 32
	—————\$ 42,401 13
Book Sales, year ending March 1, 1885.....	
" " March 1, 1886.....	\$ 8,353 15
" " March 1, 1887.....	9,374 16
" " March 1, 1888.....	10,652 54
	12,462 99
	—————\$ 40,842 84

Methodist Protestant Church.

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LIABILITIES.

Mortgage on Book Room Property for balance of purchase money.....	\$ 8,000 00
Thomas New Fund.....	1,060 00
Total Liabilities.....	\$ 9,060 00
Net Assets.....	\$ 31,492 38

NOTE.—Advance subscriptions to Sunday-school periodicals, March 1, 1888, \$2,545.49, is offset by periodicals printed March 1, amounting at list prices to \$3,231.44.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.

Assets, 1885.....	\$39,683 97	
Liabilities, 1885.....	17,722 26	
Net Capital.....		\$ 21,961 71
Assets, 1886.....	\$39,177 88	
Liabilities, 1886.....	13,777 99	
Net Capital.....		25,399 89
Assets, 1887.....	\$41,067 56	
Liabilities, 1887.....	11,151 40	
Net Capital.....		29,916 16
Assets, 1888.....	\$40,552 38	
Liabilities, 1888.....	9,060 00	
Net Capital.....		31,492 38

CONDITION OF THE METHODIST RECORDER SUBSCRIPTION LIST, BY CONFERENCES, MARCH 1, 1888.

Conferences.	Number of Subscribers.	Percentage of Members Subscribers to Recorder.
Muskingum.....	1,059	9
Pittsburgh.....	674	10
Ohio.....	602	10
Indiana.....	580	9
Iowa.....	440	14
North Illinois.....	415	18
Onondaga.....	299	14
Michigan.....	266	10
Kansas.....	182	11
Missouri.....	163	7
Genesee.....	144	18
West Virginia.....	128	1
West Michigan.....	113	9
South Illinois.....	101	5
Nebraska.....	82	25
New York.....	73	3
Pennsylvania.....	58	5
Minnesota.....	47	16

Stock, Books and Mdse. March 1, 1884.....	\$ 7,839 69
Profit, three years, ending March 3, 1888.....	\$9,530 67
Loss, year ending March 1, 1885.....	1,329 92
	<hr/>
Net Profit for four years.....	\$ 8,200 75
	<hr/> \$143,156 81

DISPOSITION OF PROFIT.

Liabilities, March 1, 1884.....	\$ 15,403 28
Liabilities, March 3, 1888.....	9,060 00
	<hr/>
Reduction of Liabilities.....	\$ 6,343 28
Assets, March 3, 1888.....	40,552 38
Assets, March 1, 1884.....	38,694 91
	<hr/>
Increase of Assets.....	\$ 1,857 47
	<hr/>
Increase Net Assets, Profit, four years.....	\$ 8,200 75
Net Assets, March 1, 1884.....	23,291 63
	<hr/>
Net Assets, March 3, 1888.....	\$ 31,492 38

STATEMENT OF CONDITION, MARCH 3, 1888.

ASSETS.

Book Room Property.....	\$19,071 64
(Carried at cost price in 1873, estimated value, \$30,- 000.00.)	
Stereotype Plates.....	582 17
The Methodist Recorder.....	4,500 00
(Carried at this figure since 1880. Estimated to be worth this sum in excess of amount due advance subscriptions.)	
Engravings, Electrotypes.....	752 58
Store Fixtures and Office Furniture	499 23
Suspended Accounts, estimated value.....	244 41
Books and other Merchandise.....	9,453 95
Printing Paper.....	405 68
Bills Receivable	77 81
Accounts Receivable.....	2,655 96
Cash	687 03
Printing Material, Type, &c.....	1,621 92
	<hr/>
Total Assets.....	\$ 40,552 38

NOTE.—Arrearage accounts due by old *Recorder* subscribers not counted as an asset.

CIRCULATION OF CURRENT ISSUES IS AS FOLLOWS :

Scholars' Quarterly.....	60,000
Teachers' Journal.....	7,000
Our Morning Guide.....	20,000
Our Children.....	35,000
Lesson Leaf.....	20,000

Respectfully submitted,

WM. McCracken, Jr., *Publishing Agent.*

REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE.

Nathan Jones and W. K. Gillespie, auditors appointed by the Pittsburgh Book Directory, report that they have carefully examined the books and accounts of the concern, and find them in good order, systematically kept, and in accord with the report made by the Agent to this Directory, and we take pleasure in commending the Agent, Wm. McCracken, Jr., for his diligence in the management of the publishing interests.

Report adopted and ordered to be published with the quadrennial report.

From the Record.

THE METHODIST RECORDER.

On the 1st of March, 1884, the *Methodist Recorder* had 4,820 subscribers, about one-half of whom had paid in advance, the remainder being in arrears. In November, 1885, the subscription list had fallen off to 4,300. Experience having shown that the custom of sending papers on credit inevitably resulted in considerable annual loss—through bad debts and other evils inseparably connected with the credit system—it was determined that a rigid cash policy should be adopted. Since February, 1886, all papers have been discontinued at the expiration of the subscription ; and the 5,829 subscribers on the list March 1, 1888, were all paid up to or in advance of that date. At the time the new cash system went into effect, a club rate was adopted, which reduced the average price of the paper about 25 per cent. The subscribers have thus received the benefit of the saving affected by the advance payment plan. The paper is now firmly established on this satisfactory basis. And although some opposition and difficulty were met with in making the change, it is believed that our patrons generally, ministers as well as laymen, approve the new plan. And it is hoped that the position gained will be strictly adhered to in the future.

Notwithstanding the reduction in the price of the *Methodist Recorder*, the paper has been steadily improved, at increased cost. Its reading matter has been enlarged by the use, in some departments, of smaller type ; and the material and workmanship are of better quality. The number of paid up subscribers on the *Recorder* list March 1, 1888, was 5,829. The average number printed and circulated each week for the past year was 6,745.

We are gratified to be able to report that since October 1, 1887, up to the time this report goes to press, the names of one hundred and thirty active friends of the church paper have been placed upon the "Roll of Honor," each having sent \$20.00 or over for the *Methodist Recorder*. Sixty-three of these have

Fifteenth Quadrennial Session.

Conferences.	Number of Subscribers.	Percentage of members Subscribers to Recorder.
New Jersey	33	1
North Missouri.....	20	1
Miscellaneous.....	350	
Total subscriptions paid up.....	5,829	
Free copies.....	314	
	6,143	

A TABLE

Showing Receipts for Papers and Books by Pittsburgh Directory from the principle Conferences, with the average amount paid per member, for year ending March 1, 1888. Receipts by mail for papers and books only. Sales at Book Room not included :

Conferences.	Receipts for Year.	Percentage of Receipts.	Average Amount per Member.
Pittsburgh.....	\$4,916 98	19	70 cents.
Muskingum.....	3,882 05	15	30 "
Ohio.....	2,788 14	11	44 "
Michigan and West Michigan.....	2,014 46	8	53 "
Indiana.....	1,916 01	8	29 "
North and South Illinois.....	1,593 96	6	33 "
Iowa.....	1,259 18	5	39 "
West Virginia.....	1,096 68	4	8 "
Onondaga.....	907 89	4	44 "
New York.....	613 10	3	27 "
Genesee.....	524 34	2	60 "
Kansas.....	611 69	2	38 "
Missouri and North Missouri.....	608 37	2	16 "
Pennsylvania.....	400 02	1	36 "
New Jersey.....	363 86	1	12 "
Nebraska.....	243 15	1	53 "
Minnesota.....	159 88	1	53 "
Other Conferences.....	867 22		

CIRCULATION OF PERIODICALS.

Published for the church by the Pittsburgh Book Directory, for year ending March 1, 1888 :

	Total Number Printed During Year.	Average Each Issue.
The Methodist Recorder.....	351,480	6,745
Our Children.....	1,400,200	26,961
Our Morning Guide (Weekly).....	669,000	12,865
Our Morning Guide (Semi-Monthly).....	104,000	4,333
Teachers' Journal.....	21,960	5,490
Scholars' Quarterly.....	173,960	43,490
Lesson Leaf.....	190,320	15,860
Total printed during year.....	2,910,920	
Average Circulation.....		115,744

RECEIPTS.

	Year ending March 1, 1885.	Year ending March 1, 1886.	Year ending March 1, 1887.	Year ending March 3, 1888.	Four Years.	
<i>Methodist Recorder—</i>						
Subscriptions	6564.07	8689.04	8362.12	8345.18	31960.41	
Advertising	4125.82	3887.60	4264.79	4102.58	16380.79	
Sunday-school Periodicals	5529.80	10923.93	12424.08	13523.32	42401.13	
Book Sales	8353.15	9374.16	10652.54	12462.99	40842.85	
Rentals	665.90	417.08	466.75	449.25	1998.98	
Waste Paper; &c	50.50	38.52	12.76	16.93	118.71	
Total Receipts	25289.24	33330.33	36183.04	38900.25	133702.86	
Mdse, Books, &c	8907.76	8137.27	9903.78	9453.95	9453.95	143156.81
Loss	1329.92					
	35526.92	41467.60	46086.82	48354.20		

DISBURSEMENTS.

Books Bought & Published	7603.57	6917.38	9729.46	10104.73	34355.14	
Printing Paper	3729.43	5365.18	5111.97	6862.45	21069.03	
Press-work	1697.12	2379.03	2793.45	3117.58	9987.13	
Postage	971.45	804.03	763.13	794.09	3332.07	
Periodicals	1816.43				1816.43	
Salaries, Wages, &c	4523.17	5516.99	6564.33	6837.27	23441.76	
Composition	3675.45	3987.50	4072.44	4489.75	16225.14	
Copyright	270.75	112.85	100.00	360.57	844.17	
Taxes and Insurance	547.34	490.13	562.70	659.69	2259.86	
Traveling Expenses	126.30	176.56	102.12	90.61	495.59	
Expense	916.07	1080.66	1269.50	1059.03	4325.26	
Stamps	481.09	598.62	681.42	704.02	2465.15	
Interest on Mortgage	480.00	480.00	480.00	480.00	1920.00	
“ “ Loans	198.43	183.99	154.98	13.49	550.89	
Premiums	140.68	118.77	19.10	172.42	450.97	
Correspondence				132.00	132.00	
Repairs to Property		220.29	19.50	68.15	307.94	
Rebate for Per'cals Unsold			47.25	30.97	78.22	
Exp. Com'rs C. P. Church			95.29		95.29	
Bad Accounts	99.18	274.51	190.88	112.59	677.16	
Year Book			40.01	63.85	103.86	
Stereotype Plates	123.23	79.85	71.87	64.68	339.63	
Engravings, Electrotypes	95.92	157.52	271.95	314.64	840.03	
Printing Material	146.96	137.61	255.70	286.21	826.48	
Stove Fixtures	44.66	40.19	36.23	55.46	176.54	
Total Disbursements	27687.23	29121.66	33433.28	36874.20	127116.37	
Merchandise	7839.69	8907.76	8137.27	9903.78		
Profit		3438.18	4516.27	1576.22		
	35526.92	41467.60	46086.82	48354.20		
Mdse. March 1, 1885					7839.69	
Profit 1886	3438.18					
“ 1887	4516.27					
“ 1888	1576.22					
	9530.67					
Loss 1885	1329.92					
Net Profit					8200.75	143156.81

sent over \$30.00 each, and a member of the Ohio Conference heads the long column with \$100.50. The whole amount sent by those whose names are on the "Roll" is \$5,131.76, an average of more than \$39.50 for each.

BOOK DEPARTMENT.

In the conduct of the Book Department the aim kept in view is to supply our ministers and people, churches and Sunday-schools, with the best books at the lowest cost. The aggregate sale of books from 1884 to 1888 falls somewhat below that of the previous four years, owing chiefly to the falling off in the sales of the "Tribute of Praise." Our report, however, shows a steady increase in the sales of other books during the past four years.

THE PUBLISHING HOUSE PROPERTY.

The Publishing House property was purchased by the Directory in 1873, and cost \$19,071.64. It is on the principal avenue of the city, within a stone's throw of the post-office, the location being one of the best in the city for the publishing and book trades. The property is now valued at thirty thousand dollars. The building is an old structure, originally the parsonage of the First Church, not as well adapted for business purposes as others of modern construction. Our publishing business needs more room and better facilities. A modern building, of four or five stories, worthy of the location, would give us the space and improvements we need, and would also give considerable space which could readily be rented, bringing in a good revenue. Such an improvement is desirable, and should, as soon as practicable, be made.

THE "THOMAS NEW FUND."

In 1885, Rev. Thomas New, of Florida, made a bequest to this Directory, to be used in supplying books and periodicals to individuals and Sunday-schools unable to purchase them. One thousand dollars has thus far been realized from this bequest. A fund of this kind will aid the Directory in helping to establish new Sunday schools, thus doing valuable home missionary work. It is to be hoped that friends with means may be prompted to add to this fund. We know of no way in which money may be expended with better results.